BORUTO

TWO BLUE VORTEX

5

Creator/Supervisor **Masashi Kishimoto** *Art by* **Mikio Ikemoto**

池本幹雄

There's a theory that, when humans are still for too long, cats think, "This guy looks idle. I should play with them."

Now, I happen to be busy, toiling away, but apparently it looks to the cat like I'm totally slacking. In short, the cat isn't being a nuisance, they're worrying and checking in on you. Either way, I find it therapeutic.

—**Mikio Ikemoto, 2025**

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-TWO BLUE VORTEX-
5
SHONEN JUMP Edition

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PARENTAL ADVISORY
BORUTO: TWO BLUE VORTEX is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains fantasy violence.

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BORUTO CHARACTERS
-TWO BLUE VORTEX-

UZUMAKI NARUTO

UCHIHA SASUKE

AMADO

NARA SHIKAMARU

KASHIN KOJI

HIDARI

RYU

MATSURI

JURA

THE DIVINE TREE QUINTET

MAMUSHI

UZUMAKI BORUTO

KAWAKI

UCHIHA SARADA

DAEMON

EIDA

UZUMAKI HIMAWARI

MITSUKI

KAKEI SUMIRE

The Great Ninja War that shook the world and shed much blood is now history. Naruto has become the Seventh Hokage, and the people of Konohagakure Village are enjoying peace. But Ohtsutsuki Clan members attack and leave a mysterious mark, the Karma, on Seventh Hokage Naruto's son Boruto…

After that incident, Boruto unexpectedly runs into Kawaki, who also bears a Karma. Under Naruto's protection, Kawaki starts to deeply respect Naruto and consider Boruto his brother.

However, following their battle against Code, who has inherited the Ohtsutsuki Will, Kawaki seals Naruto away and goes after Boruto's life. In addition, the power of Eida's Omnipotence causes Boruto and Kawaki to switch positions. Everyone's perception is that Kawaki is Naruto's son, and Boruto an outsider. Boruto, who has now become a fugitive, goes into hiding along with Sasuke…

Three years later, self-aware Divine Tree Jura attacks Konoha Village. Boruto is injured and arrested by the Village, Around the same time, Matsuri takes Gaara down in Sunagakure. Sarada, Mitsuki, and Konohamaru now head to the rescue, but…?!

BORUTO
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5

BECAUSE OF LOVE

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17: Wild Beast Cubs

...IN BORUTO'S SHOES...

YOU MIGHT...

...WANT TO TRY PUTTING YOURSELF...

DO YOU REALLY THINK HE LIKES...

...HAVING TO KEEP THINGS FROM US?

HAS THERE BEEN EVEN A MOMENT...

...WHEN YOU'VE REFLECTED ON HIS PAIN?

AND NOT JUST BORUTO'S FEELINGS...

...BUT MINE TOO.

...DID YOU THINK ABOUT MY FEELINGS AT ALL...

...EVEN JUST A LITTLE BIT?

WHEN YOU!..

...WERE IN FRONT OF ME...

VWOOO

WHAT TREES?

THIS IS A DESERT.

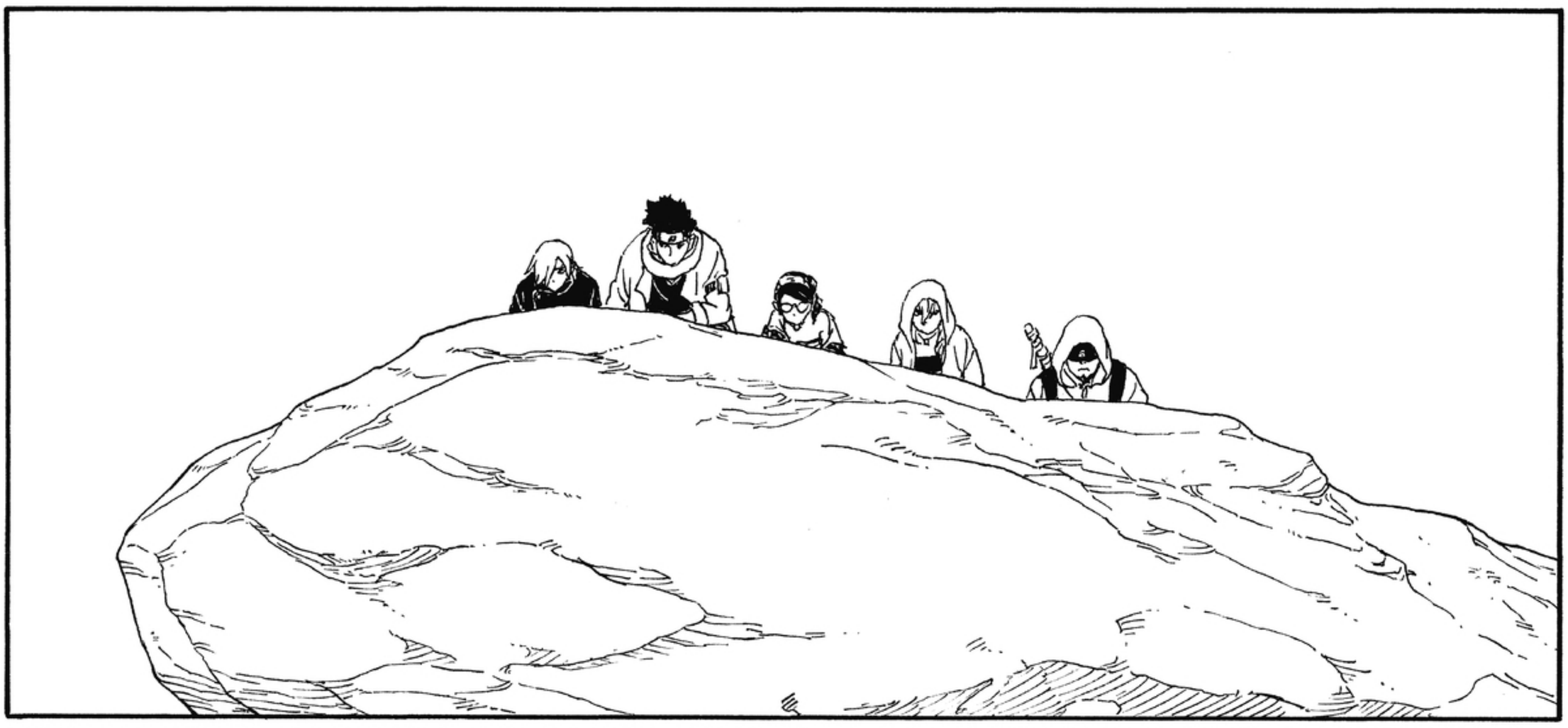
THEY'RE EVERY-WHERE.

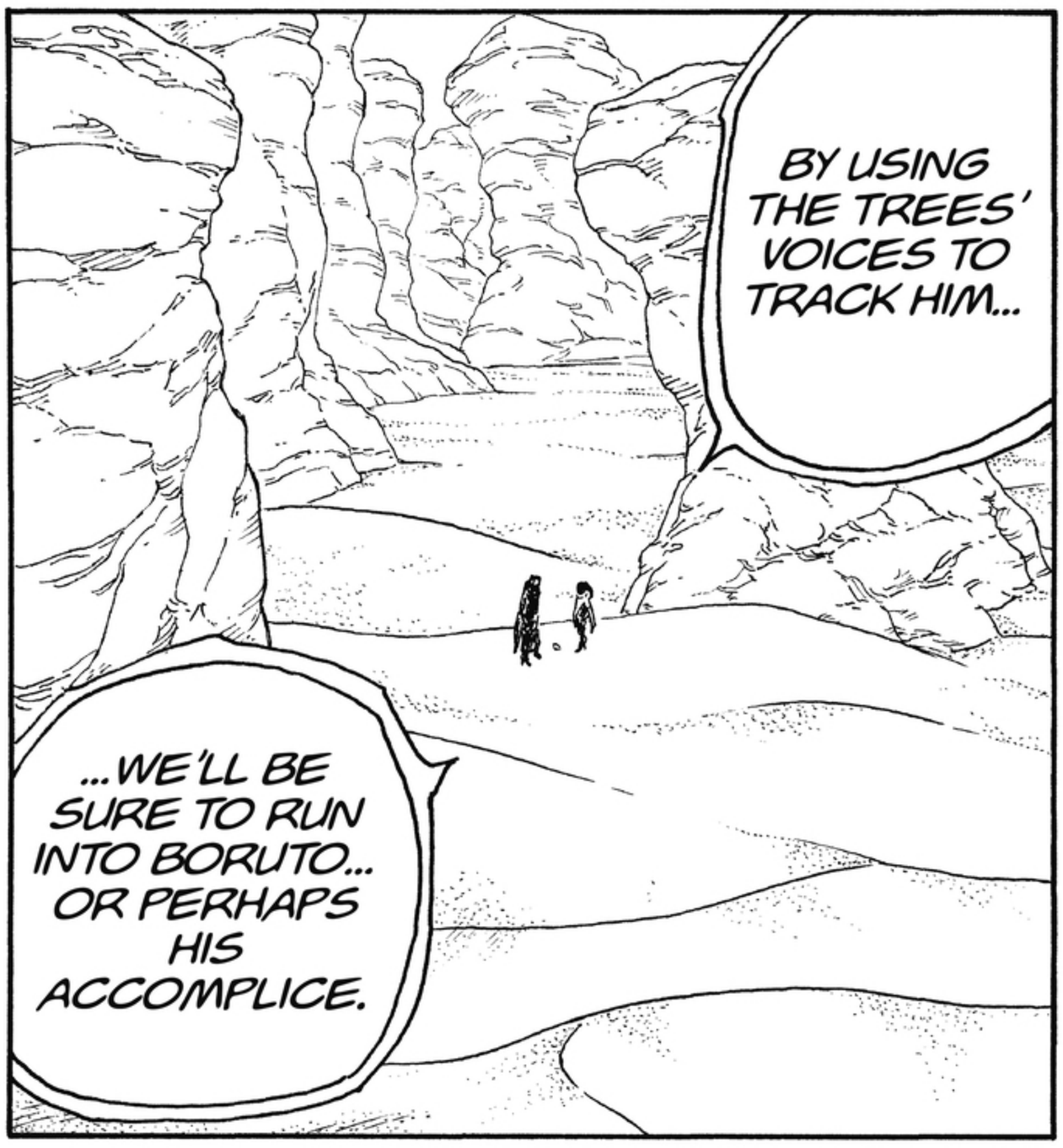
EVEN DEEP BELOW GROUND ...

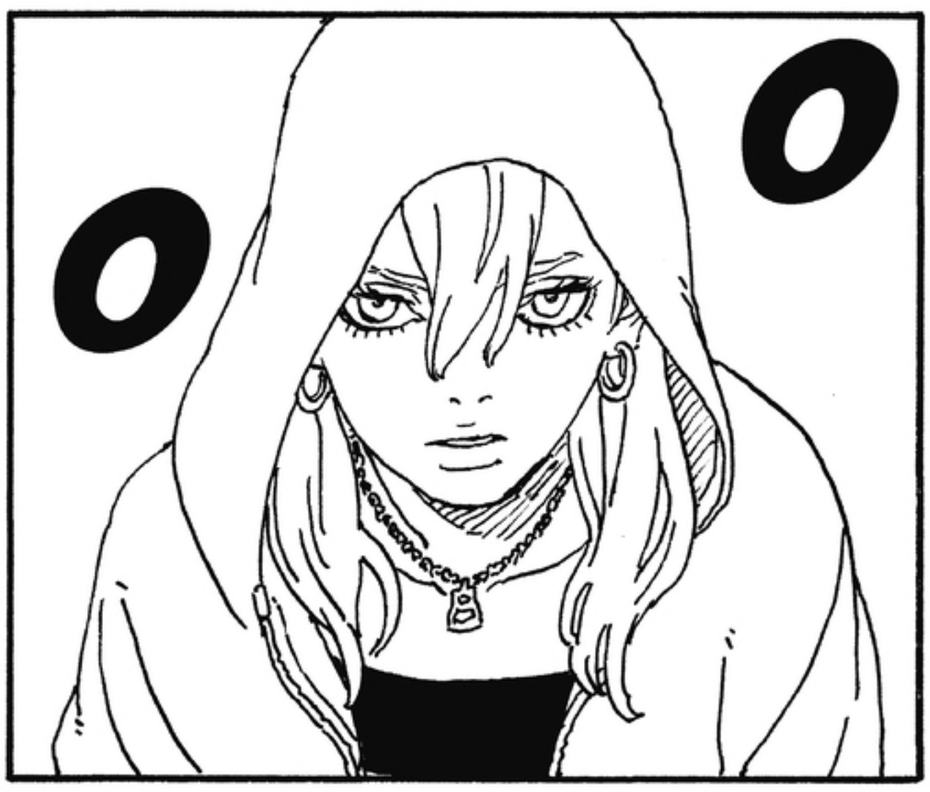
ACCORDING TO THE TREES...

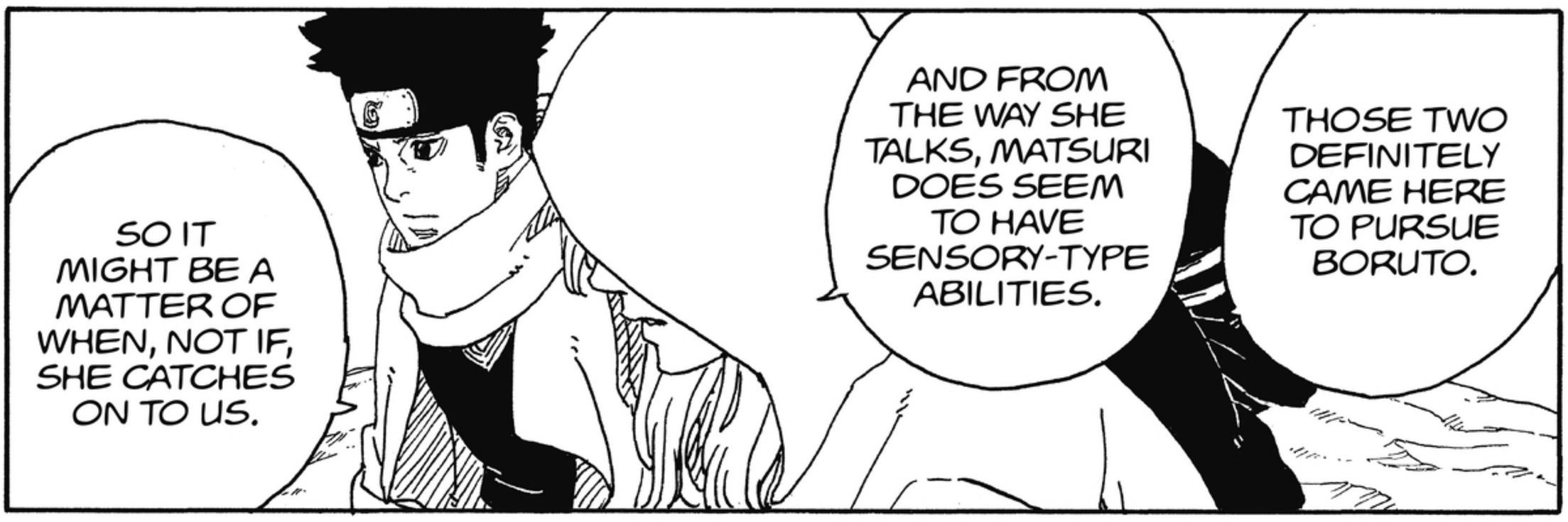
...BORUTO HIMSELF PLACED THE TOAD HERE.

SO HE WAS DEFINITELY HERE.




BY USING THE TREES' VOICES TO TRACK HIM...
...WE'LL BE SURE TO RUN INTO BORUTO... OR PERHAPS HIS ACCOMPLICE.




SO IT MIGHT BE A MATTER OF WHEN, NOT IF, SHE CATCHES ON TO US.
AND FROM THE WAY SHE TALKS, MATSURI DOES SEEM TO HAVE SENSORY-TYPE ABILITIES.
THOSE TWO DEFINITELY CAME HERE TO PURSUE BORUTO.

OKAY.

EVERY-THING'S LINING UP WITH OUR INTEL SO FAR.

ARE YOU ALL READY?

...

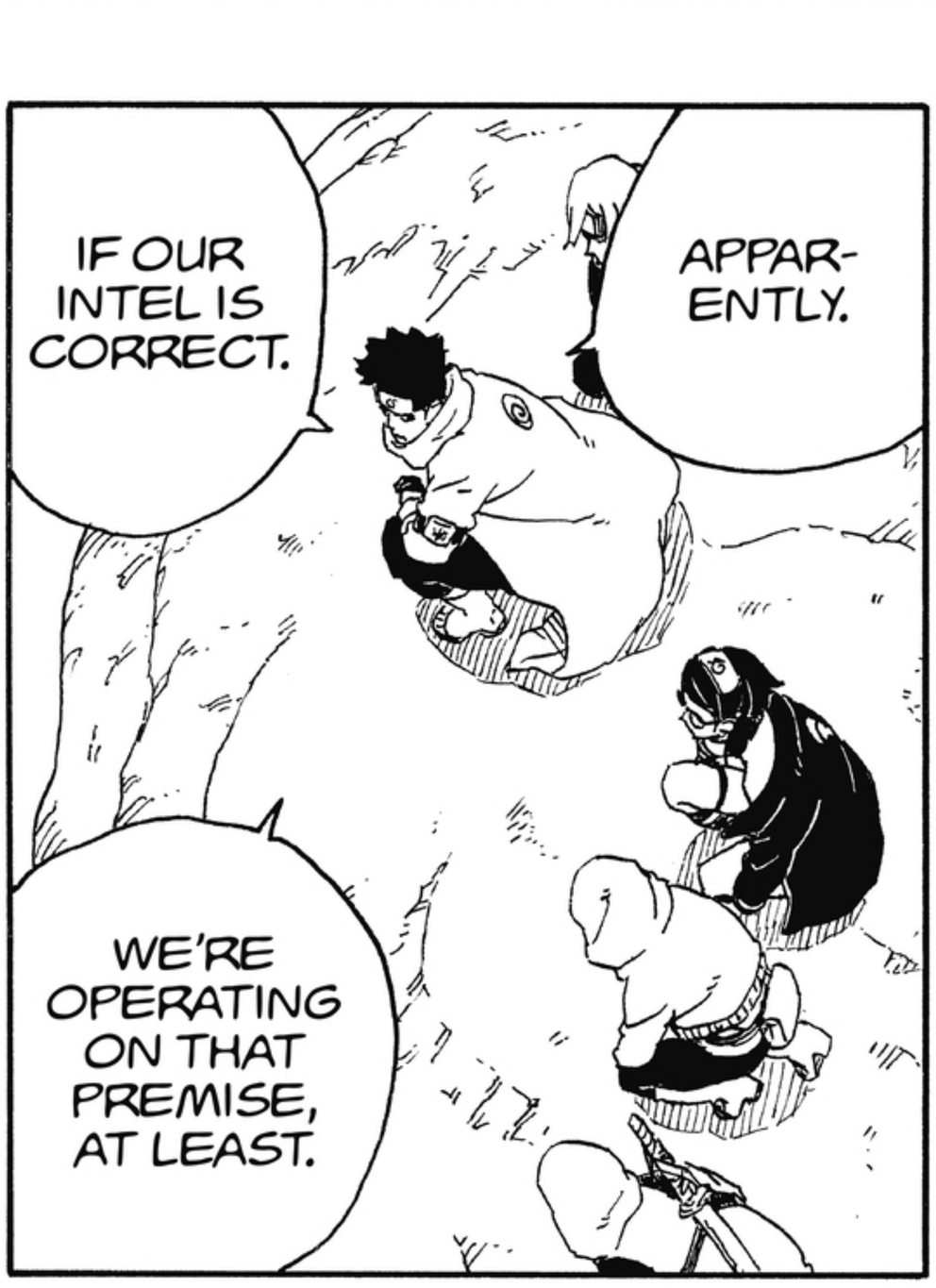
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

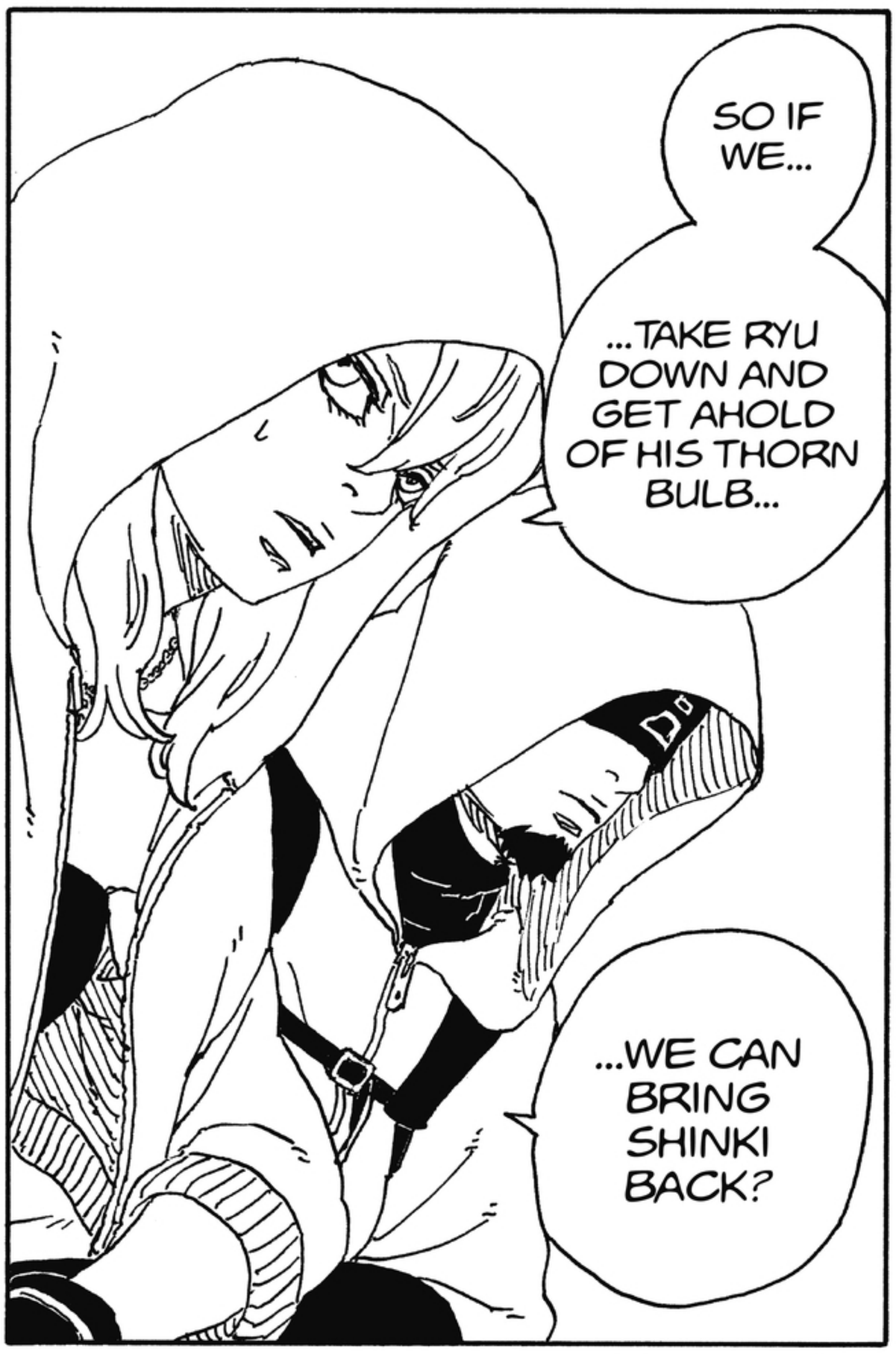
WHAT'S GOING ON, SARADA?

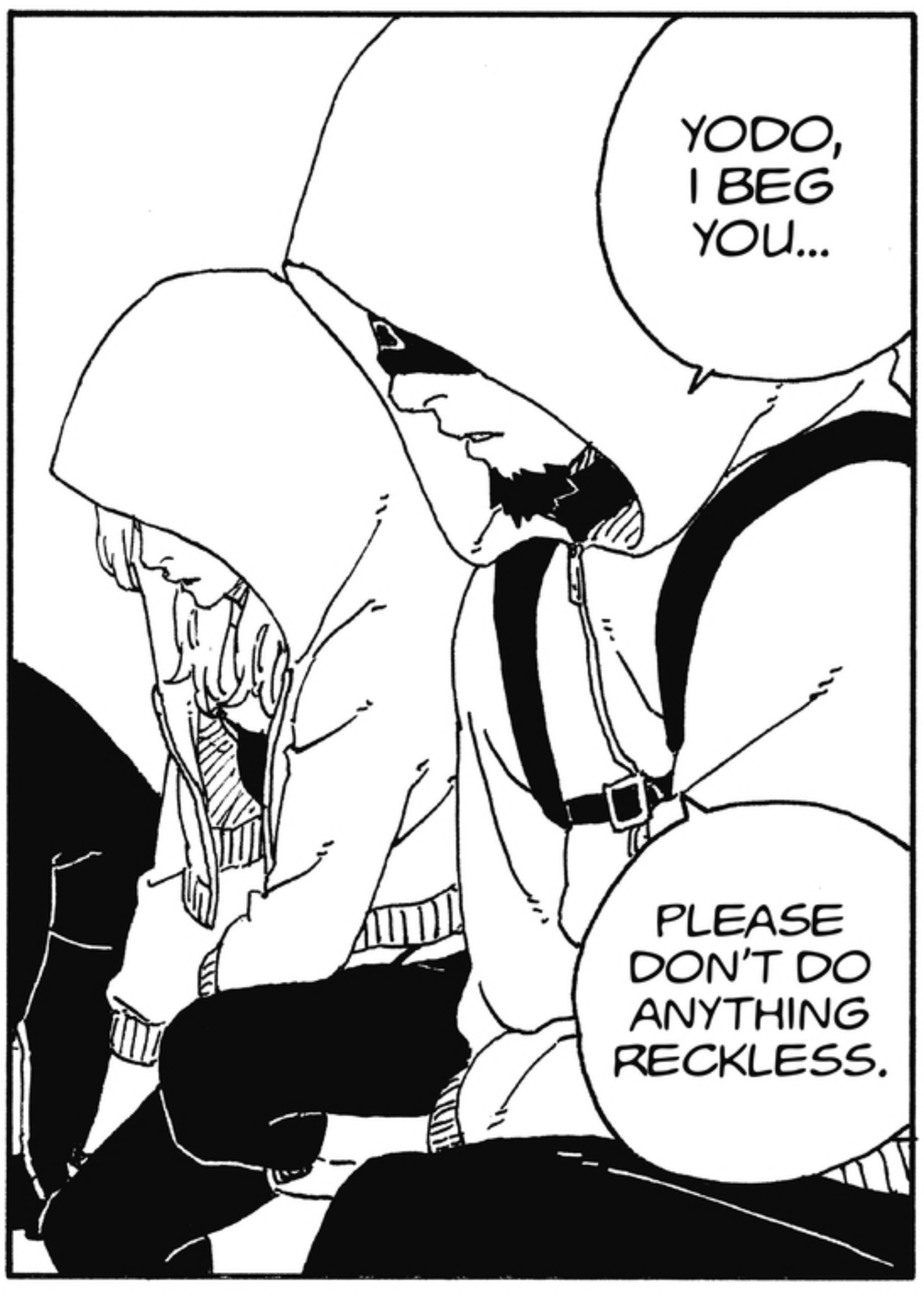
I'LL FOCUS, I PROMISE!

OH, SORRY.

MASTER KONOHA-MARU?


IF OUR INTEL IS CORRECT.
APPAR-ENTLY.
WE'RE OPERATING ON THAT PREMISE, AT LEAST.


SO IF WE...
...TAKE RYU DOWN AND GET AHOLD OF HIS THORN BULB...
...WE CAN BRING SHINKI BACK?


YODO, I BEG YOU...
PLEASE DON'T DO ANYTHING RECKLESS.

...
I SWEAR TO DO MY BEST.

...

I TOLD YOU TO SHUT IT!

OR ELSE I'LL SHUT YOU UP!

YODO!

I'M GONNA DO WHAT-EVER IT TAKES...

QUIT TELLING ME WHAT TO DO, ARAYA.

...TO RESCUE SHINKI!

THE LAST THING WE NEED IS YOU FIGHTING!

STOP IT, YOU TWO!

...

SORRY.

WE'RE ALWAYS LIKE THIS.

IT WON'T AFFECT THE MISSION.

YESSIR.

THOUGH I WONDER IF IT'LL REALLY WORK.

DO ALL OF YOU UNDERSTAND THE PLAN?

YEESH.

JUST TO BE SAFE, I'LL ASK AGAIN.

LET'S GO!

DON'T YOU START NOW.

WE'VE COME TOO FAR NOT TO PROCEED.

NINJA APPROACH-ING.

ELDER.

YOU TWO OVER THERE!

WHO ARE YOU?!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?

WE ARE KONOHA SHINOBI.

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

WE'VE BEEN FOLLOWING THE REBEL BORUTO'S TRAIL.

SARU-TOBI...

...KONOHA-MARU...

...ELDER MATSU--

SO WHAT'S THE PLAN...

IT SEEMS LIKE...

...THEY DON'T KNOW WHO WE ARE.

...

...

ELDER?

...

I'M FEELING ...

...A BIT OFF...

YOU DO THE TALKING, RYU.

...

I...

SHP

VWOOO

HUH?

LISTEN, KONOHA-MARU.

IT'S CRUCIAL...

YOUR MISSION ISN'T JUST TO TAKE THE DIVINE TREES DOWN.

...THAT YOU COLLECT THEIR THORN BULBS.

THORN BULBS?

OH, THAT!

!

I BELIEVE YOU'VE SEEN ONE.

IT'S THE THING THAT APPEARED WHEN HIDARI WAS DEFEATED.

IF WE RETURN THEM TO THEIR TREES...

...WE CAN BRING MOEGI AND SHINKI BACK.

THE INTEL IS SOLID.

...AND RYU'S, SHINKI.

MATSURI'S THORN BULB WILL RESTORE MOEGI...

!

FOR REAL?!

IN SHORT, FIGHTING THEM IS USELESS...

...IF WE CAN'T TAKE THEIR THORN BULBS.

CONVERSELY, IF WE ***DON'T*** RETRIEVE THOSE THORN BULBS...

...MATSURI AND RYU WILL KEEP RESUR-RECTING.

...

...

ARE YOU SAYING ...

...HIDARI IS BACK AMONG THE LIVING?

AFTER BORUTO DEFEATED HIM, HIDARI'S THORN BULB...

...FLEW OFF SOME-WHERE.

IT'S LIKELY.

SO THE GIST OF OUR MISSION...

...IS TO SUBDUE THE DIVINE TREES...

...AND COLLECT THEIR THORN BULBS, CORRECT?

...

...HOW'D YOU COME BY THIS INTEL?

BUT LORD EIGHTH ...

SORRY, KONOHA-MARU.

BUT THAT'S BEYOND YOUR CLEAR-ANCE.

ITS VERACITY ASIDE...

...THIS IS WAY MORE INFORMATION THAN WHAT WE GLEANED FROM BORUTO'S INTERRO-GATION.

...

NO...

I JUDGE THE ACCURACY OF ANY INTEL...

...AND HOW MUCH OF IT TO DISCLOSE.

YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT?

REGARDING YOUR MISSION...

...I HAVE A PARTICULAR STRATEGY IN MIND...

...FOR HOW TO FIGHT THEM, BASED ON THE INTEL.

...YET THIS ANTAGONISTIC RELATIONSHIP IS RELATIVE.

THERE IS NO CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE THAT THESE DIVINE TREES ARE INTRINSICALLY EVIL.

...AND THEY EACH HAVE TARGETS, SUCH AS YOU AND SARADA, WHO THEY SEEK TO DEVOUR.

THE DIVINE TREES ARE MONSTERS POSSESSING HIGH COMBAT ABILITIES...

SO NATURALLY, WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO CONSIDER THEM FOES AND CONFRONT THEM...

WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS...

...THAT IN MY PERSONAL OPINION...

...THEY SEEM SIMILAR TO NEWLY BORN OFFSPRING OF WILD BEASTS.

?

HUH?

...CUBS?

WILD BEAST...

BUT BECAUSE THEY HAVE DANGEROUS STRENGTH...

...THEY POSE A GREAT THREAT TO US HUMANS.

...

AT LEAST, FOR THE TIME BEING...

I DON'T THINK THEY HAVE TRUE EVIL INTENT.

...THAT REACT ON INSTINCT.

...THEY ARE MERELY ANIMALS...

...

WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH THIS?

THEN IT ***DOESN'T*** ...

...CHANGE THE FACT THAT THEY'RE FOES THAT WE NEED TO DEFEAT, RIGHT?

FRIENDS, KONOHA-MARU.

BECOME FRIENDS WITH THEM.

TAME 'EM, WHILE THESE WILD BEASTS ARE STILL INNOCENT CUBLINGS.

WIN THEM OVER.

AND THEN...

HUH?

WHAT?

...BETRAY THEM.

I

THIS IS A PERFECT PLAN, IF YOU TRULY...

DID YOUR HEART REEL JUST NOW? DON'T ALLOW IT TO.

...CONSIDER THEM NOTHING BUT FOES.

I PROPOSE THIS TACTIC...

NARUTO PROBABLY WOULDN'T TAKE THIS ROUTE...

...BUT I'M NOT HIM.

...TO GET RID OF THESE SUPERHUMAN MONSTERS...

GET THEM TO DROP THEIR GUARD, SO YOU CAN KILL THEM.

...FOR THE SURVIVAL OF HUMAN-KIND.

...

VWOOO

THESE TWO ARE SARADA...

I AM COMMANDER KONOHA-MARU.

...AND MITSUKI.

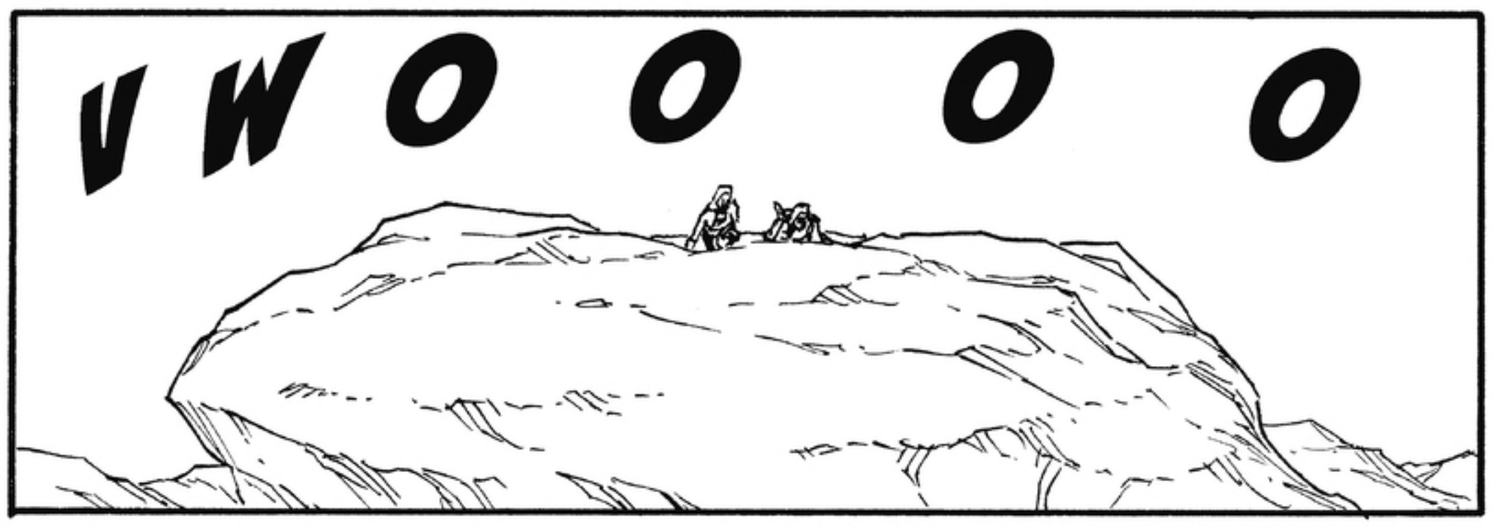
...

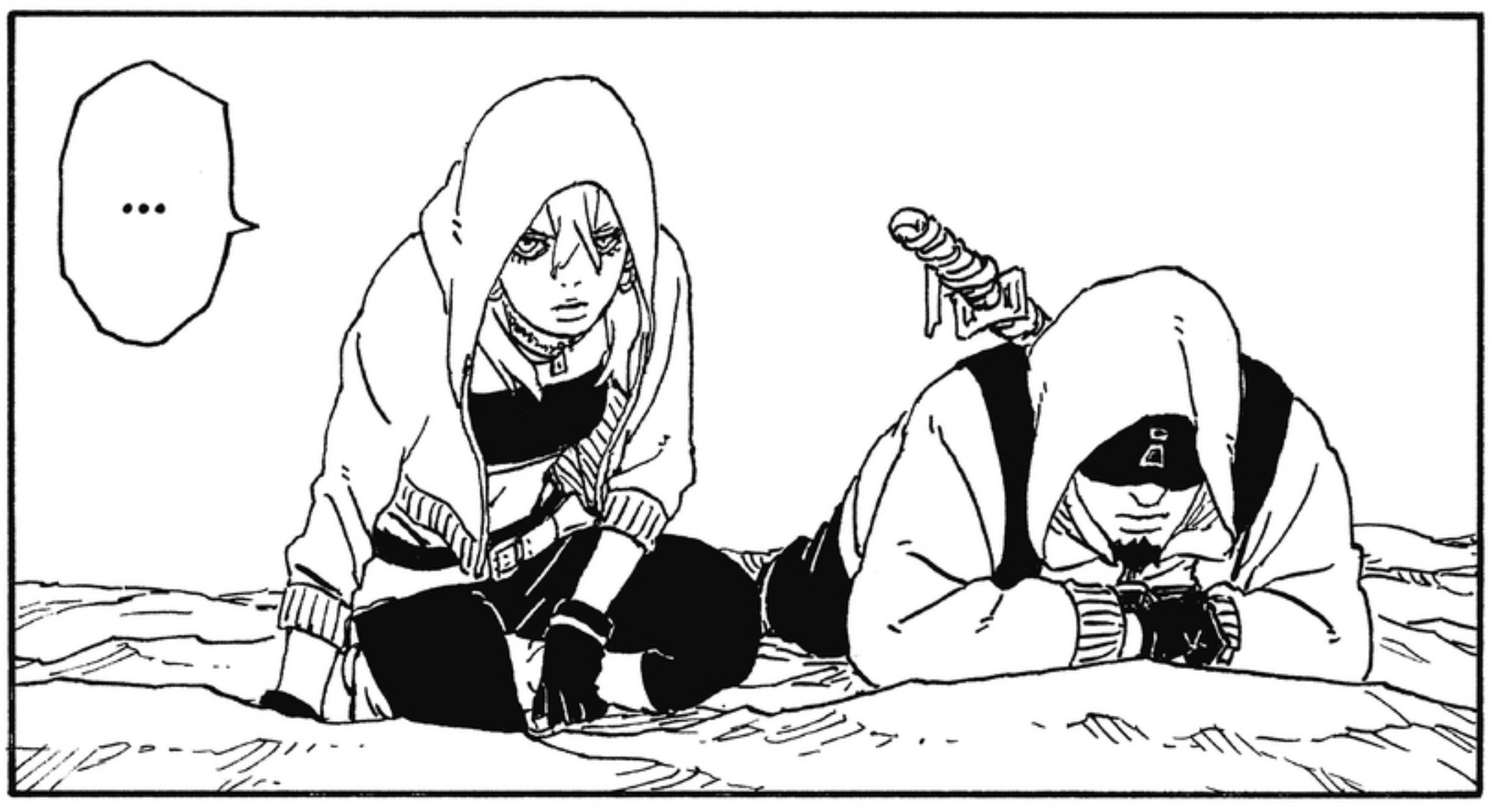
AND YOU?

SHF

AND THIS IS...
I AM RYU.

UH... ELDER MATSURI?
YOU OKAY?
YOU REALLY SEEM OFF.


VWOOOOO


...

...
I DUNNO.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR HIM ALSO.

WE'D LOVE TO JOIN FORCES.

YOU'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR BORUTO TOO?

THEN OUR GOALS ARE THE SAME.

RYU AND MATSURI, EH?

NICE TO MEET YOU.

THIS TOAD IS A SPY USED BY BOTH BORUTO AND HIS ACCOMPLICE.

WE NEED TO INVESTIGATE WHAT IT WAS DOING HERE.

FSH

WELL, ELDER?

...

SURE, I GUESS...

...

!

FOR REALS?

MASTER.

IT MIGHT BE ONE THAT BORUTO USES FOR TELEPOR-TATION.

I FOUND A PIECE OF METAL.

YOU CHECK OVER THERE.

LET'S SPLIT UP.

SARADA, MITSUKI.

WE MIGHT FIND OTHER CLUES.

ROGER!

WHY DON'T WE COMB THE AREA?

YOU'RE MATSURI, RIGHT?

YOU.

!

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

ARE YOU NOT FEELING WELL?

WHY? WHAT'S...

I'M HAVING TROUBLE BREATHING.

...WRONG WITH ME?

...

WE FOUND OTHER STUFF THAT MIGHT BE BORUTO'S ...

...OVER THAT WAY TOO.

RYU!

MAYBE HE'S STILL IN THE VICINITY?

FOR REALS?

DON'T WORRY, WE'VE GOT THIS SWATH COVERED.

LEAVE IT TO US.

BUT...

...ELDER MATSU-RI'S...

OUR OTHER COMRADES ARE WAITING NEAR THERE.

LET'S GO TO THEM. I'LL INTRODUCE YOU.

YOU KONOHA NINJA ARE SERIOUSLY NICE PEEPS.

PHEW, WHAT A RELIEF.

JUST LIKE I WAS TOLD.

COME.

SEE? MASTER HAS THINGS UNDER CONTROL.

...

HUH?

...

JURA?

ELDER JURA'S FULL OF RESPECT FOR YA.

OH, HE'S OUR BOSS MAN.

AWW, GEE...

DON'T SAY STUFF LIKE THAT.

Y'KNOW, HONESTLY, I'D BEEN INTENDIN' TO SLAUGHTER...

...ANY NINJA I RAN INTO.

SO I'M GLAD WE SPOKE FIRST.

...SHINKI.

HANG IN THERE...

...

...

DO YOU KNOW WHY YOU'RE MATSURI'S TARGET?

IT'S CUZ...

...SHE BEARS ROMANTIC FEELINGS TOWARDS YOU.

AND, KONOHA-MARU...

...THERE'S A REASON I PICKED YOU FOR THIS MISSION.

HUH?

...SHE HAS NO IDEA WHAT...

...THE EMOTION SHE'S FEELING IS.

ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS MATSURI HERSELF IS NOT AWARE OF THIS.

OR RATHER...

!!

WAIT, WHAT ?!

ISN'T THAT A BIT MUCH...?

...

ER...

SO THIS PLAN MAY PUT HER IN A STATE OF TURMOIL.

DIVINE TREES ARE OUR ENEMY.

I TOLD YOU.

BE HEART-LESS.

IF IT DOES, THAT WILL LIKELY GIVE US A FAVORABLE EDGE.

AS AMICABLY AS POS-SIBLE.

...SO YOU'LL NEED TO FIND A WAY TO SEPARATE THEM.

TAKE CHARGE OF THE SITUATION.

WORST CASE, THE TWO OF THEM TOGETHER.

ACCORD-ING TO OUR INTEL, EITHER MATSURI OR RYU WILL SHOW UP.

FACING BOTH AT THE SAME TIME WILL NOT GO WELL FOR US...

...

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU NEED A BREAK.

WANNA SIT SOME-WHERE AND TALK?

I DUNNO.

...ISN'T LIKE ME...

THIS JUST...

WELL?

ARE YOU FEELING ANY BETTER?

...

...SURE ABOUT THAT?

YOU...

...FOR YOU TO GET THIS WAY, Y'KNOW?

I DON'T THINK IT'S NECESSARILY WEIRD...

CAN YOU TAKE A LOOK RIGHT NOW?

EIDA.

I WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SAND.

VWOOO

WHAT ABOUT THAT GEEZER?

VVV

...

YOU BETTER NOT BE WRONG.

NO CHANCE OF HIM SEEING YOU.

MAMUSHI SHOULD BE AT THEIR BASE.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

IT'S GOING WELL SO FAR.

...THEY'VE SUCCEEDED IN SEPA-RATING THEM.

OR AT LEAST...

PERCENTAGE-WISE.

WHAT'S THE CHANCE THEY FAIL?

KONOHA-MARU'S KEEPING MATSURI OCCUPIED.

...THEN REN-DEZVOUS WITH KONOHA-MARU AND DEFEAT MATSURI TOGETHER.

IDEALLY, SARADA AND THE OTHER THREE WILL TAKE RYU DOWN FIRST...

NOT THAT HIGH.

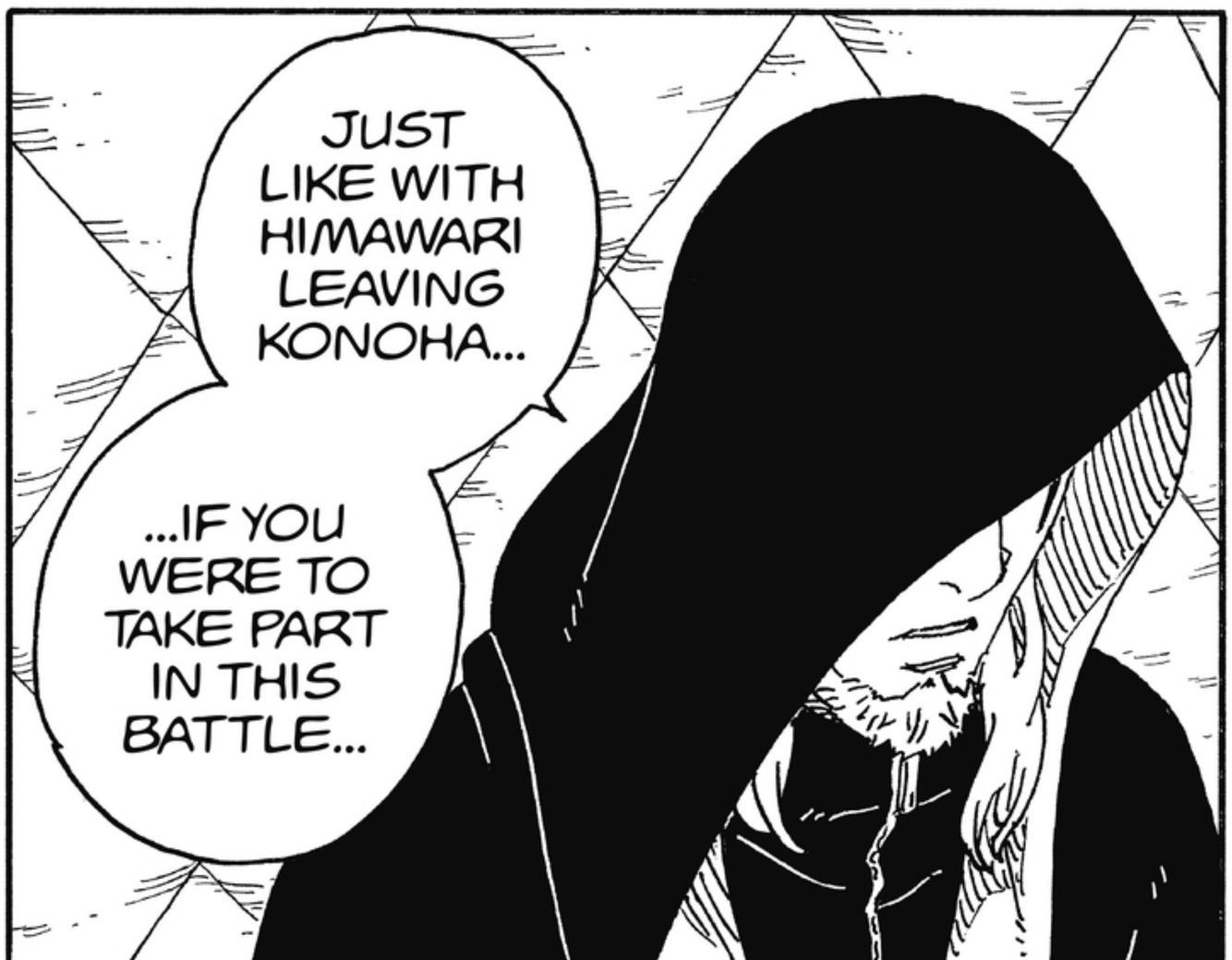
...

EITHER WAY...

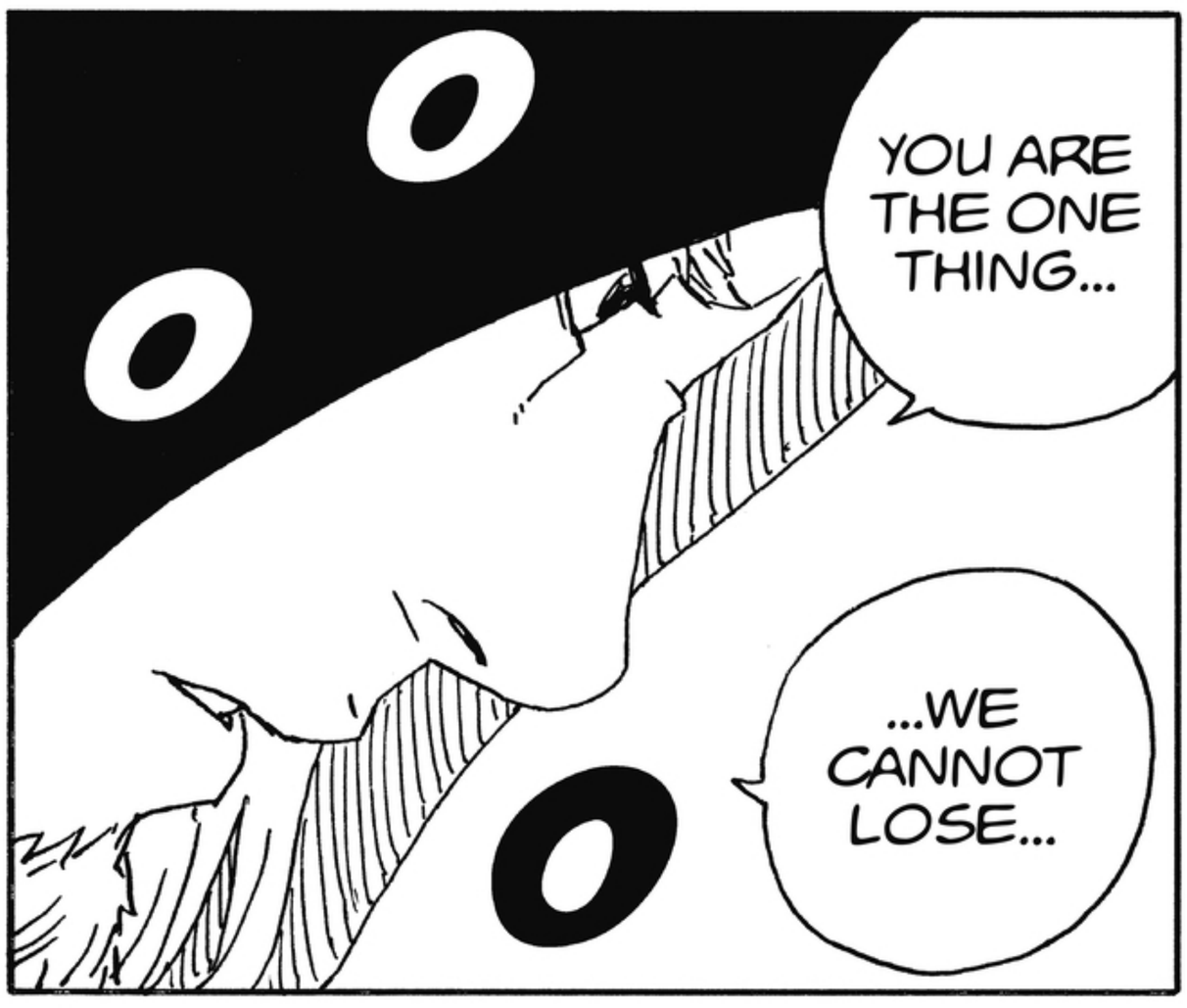
...YOU'RE NOT TO GO, BORUTO.

DON'T LIE TO ME.

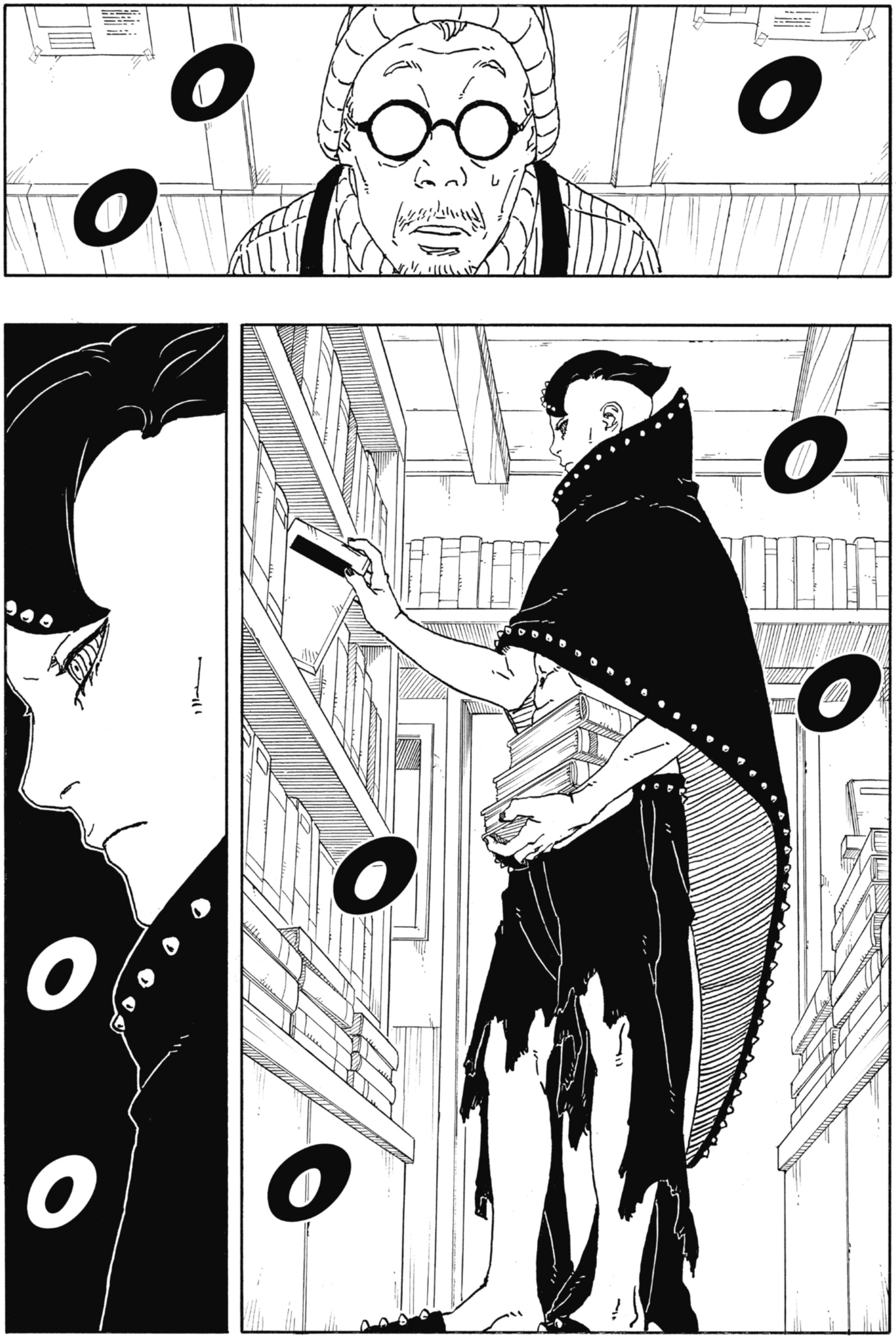
I ASKED YOU FOR A NUMBER.


JUST LIKE WITH HIMAWARI LEAVING KONOHA...
...IF YOU WERE TO TAKE PART IN THIS BATTLE...
...JURA WOULD MAKE A MOVE.

AND IF THAT HAP-PENS...
...YOU *WILL* DIE THIS TIME.


YOU ARE THE ONE THING...
...WE CANNOT LOSE...

...



IT'S JURA! HE'S CURRENTLY...

...INSIDE A BOOKSTORE IN SECTOR C...

INTRUDER ALERT! CHAKRA DATA MATCHED!

WHMP

DMP

IGNORE HIM. LEAVE HIM ALONE.

DON'T EVACUATE ANY CIVILIANS EITHER.

AND RELAY TO ALL PERSONNEL ...

...THAT THEY ARE ***NOT*** TO ENGAGE.

...

...TO SEEING YOU AGAIN, SIR...

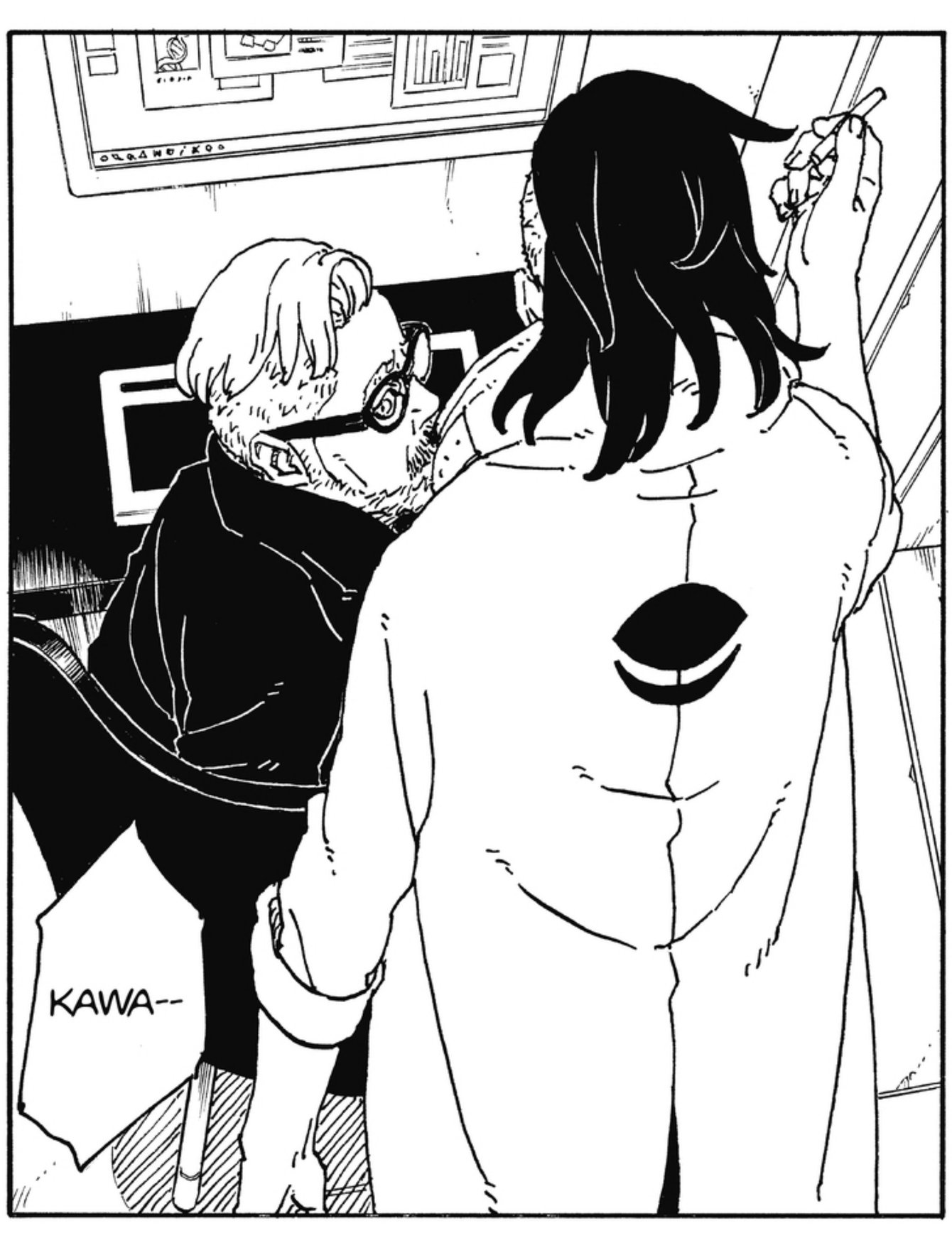
AS YOU WISH. I LOOK FORWARD...

...TO BE APPLIED TO MY FUTURE PURCHASES.

KEEP THE CHANGE.

IT'S AN ADVANCE ...

RSTL


KAWA--

P/K

BA

GAH !!

M

I'VE GOT TONS I WANNA SAY TO YOU, BUT FIRST...

!!

...YOU'RE GONNA DRAW OUT ALL OF MY POWERS...

...TO THEIR FULLEST EXTENT!!

...BE DROPPING BY...

I THOUGHT ...

...YOU MIGHT...

18: Only Babble in Your Sleep

BORUTO

-TWO BLUE VORTEX-

TK

TK

TK

TK

TK

WOOSH

P-PIP

PIP PIP

G-

G-

G-

G-

RELAX, SUMIRE. I'M TOTALLY SANE.

...BUT WE'RE JUST HAVING A TALK.

IT MAY LOOK A TAD VIOLENT ...

KAWAKI ?!

GWWW

...THAT ENDS NOW.

AT THIS POINT, I DON'T CARE THAT YOU'VE BEEN TINKERING WITH MY BODY LIKE IT'S A TOY.

HOW-EVER...

I'LL DECIDE THINGS FROM HERE ON.

...

KAWAKI !!!

CHANGE MY SET-TINGS.

AMP UP MY OFFENSIVE POWER TO THE MAX.

LOOK INTO MY EYES.

I'M NOT KIDDING.

YOU SEE THAT, RIGHT?

...AND I'LL KILL YOU.

IF YOU WON'T, THEN YOU'RE OF NO USE TO ME...

FSH

NNH.

HAK

GOFF

GWW

ONLY BABBLE IN YOUR SLEEP...

...KAWAKI.

CHOOSE YOUR ANSWER CARE-FULLY...

...IF YOU WANT TO KEEP LIVING.

WSP

WHAM

DNK

A FAILSAFE...

...JUST LIKE WITH DELTA!

AN EMERGENCY SHUTDOWN CODE!!

HUFF

HUFF

DAMN BRAT!

!

...MOVE HIM?

CAN YOU HELP ME...

HUFF

YOU HAVE IMPEC-CABLE TIMING, SUMIRE.

RYU, MEET YODO, THE GIRL ON THE LEFT...

...AND THE ONE WITH THE BLADE IS ARAYA.

WHOOO

HI THERE.

...

IS IT MY IMAGI-NATION...

...OR IS SHE TOTALLY GLARING AT ME?

...

IT TAKES HER TIME TO WARM UP.

OH, SORRY, SHE'S SHY.

YOU'RE NOT A KID ANY-MORE.

TONE IT DOWN, YODO.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

I DON'T KNOW IF I GET IT COMPLETELY, BUT...

W-WELL...

AND YOUR COLOR'S GOOD.

...AT LEAST YOU SEEM FINE PHYSICALLY!

...AND THAT'S THE SITUATION.

I FEEL LIKE I'M FINALLY MY TRUE SELF.

I'M REALLY ENJOY-ING...

... TALKING TO YOU.

MAYBE CUZ WE'D JUST MET.

IT'S NOT UN-COMMON.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHY, BUT FOR WHATEVER REASON...

...IT SEEMS LIKE I WAS SUPER NERVOUS.

BUT AS WE TALKED, I STARTED FEELING MORE AND MORE NORMAL!

HOW COULD THAT BE?

I SEE ...

I GUESS ...

...THAT'S A GOOD THING, EH?

UM, WOULD IT BE OKAY IF I CALLED YOU...

...KONOHA-MARU-CHAN?

...

KONOHA-
MARU-
CHAN!

COME
LOOK,
KONOHA-
MARU-
CHAN!

OVER
THIS WAY!
HURRY!

HEY!

ARE YOU
LISTENING,
KONOHAMARU-
CHAN?

...

...

ER,
NOTH-
ING.

WHAT'S
THE
MATTER?

THAT WOULD BE...

OH RIGHT, WE DID, DIDN'T WE...?

!

ER...

...THAT MIGHT LEAD TO THAT BORUTO GUY?

SO WHERE IS IT? THIS CLUE...

?!

ZW

ZWW

YOU SAID YOU SAW SOME-THING AROUND HERE, RIGHT?

ZWOOOSH

ZWOO

OH, THIS?

I'M SPREADING IRON SAND AROUND.

I LEARN A LOT OF THINGS USING IT.

IT'S MY DETECTION ABILITY.

RYU!

HUH?

WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

...

I'M GONNA POKE AROUND THIS AREA A BIT.

...I'LL FIND HIM REAL QUICK.

IF BORUTO IS ANY-WHERE NEARBY...

ZSSSH

HUH ?

VWSH

I WAS RIGHT ABOUT YOU.

YOUR BLOODLUST IS OFF THE CHARTS.

WHAT MIGHTY BLOOD-LUST YOU'VE GOT...

!

...MIZ YODO.

...

DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU.

ALL OF US NINJA ARE.

I'M ALWAYS LIKE THIS.

...

HEY, RYU?

CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?

...

THAT'S WHY WE'RE HUNTING HIM DOWN.

KONOHA VILLAGE CONSIDERS BORUTO A CRIMINAL.

...

WHY ARE YOU GUYS LOOKING FOR HIM?

THORN BULBS?

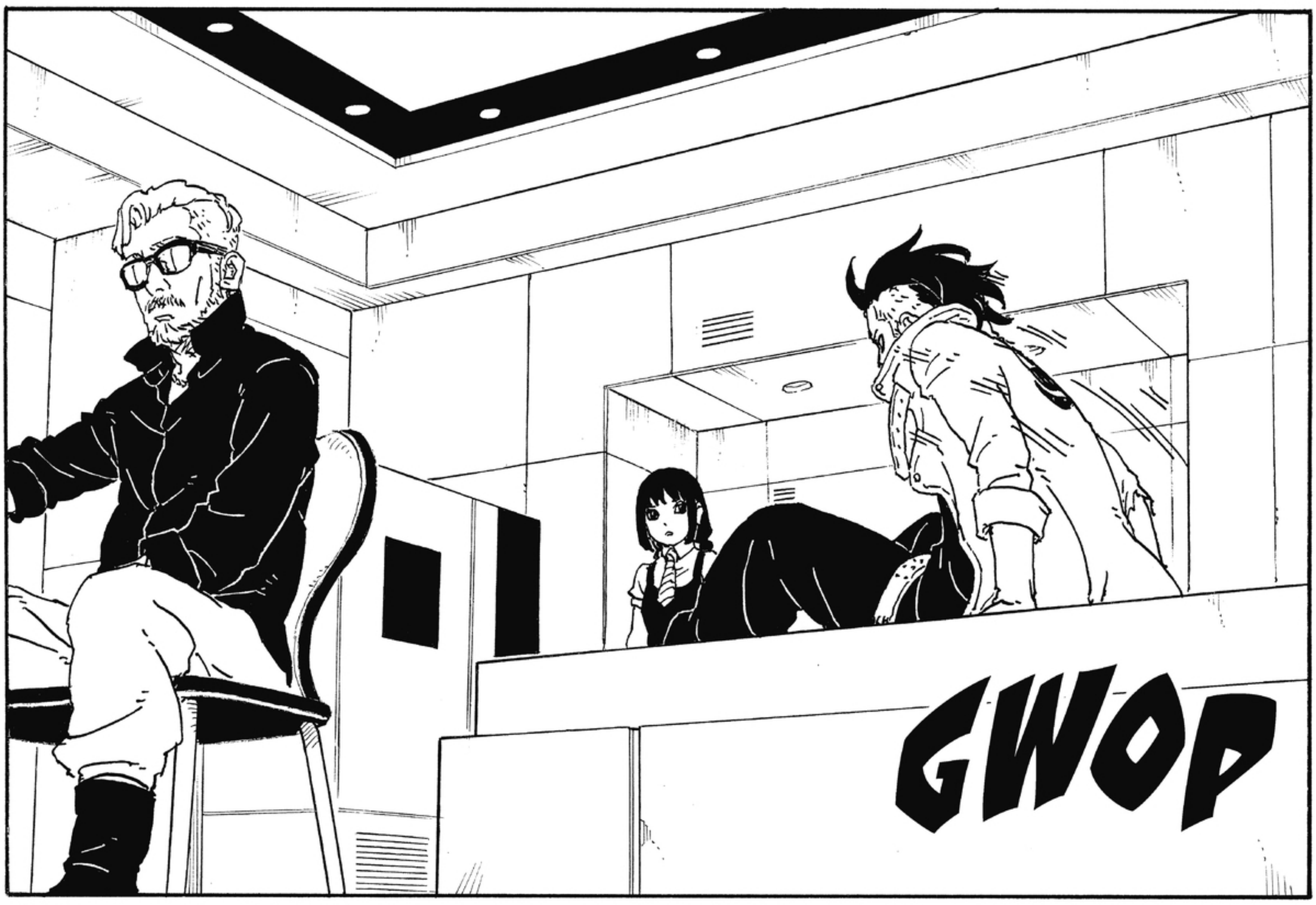
HONESTLY, I DON'T TOTALLY UNDER-STAND IT MYSELF.

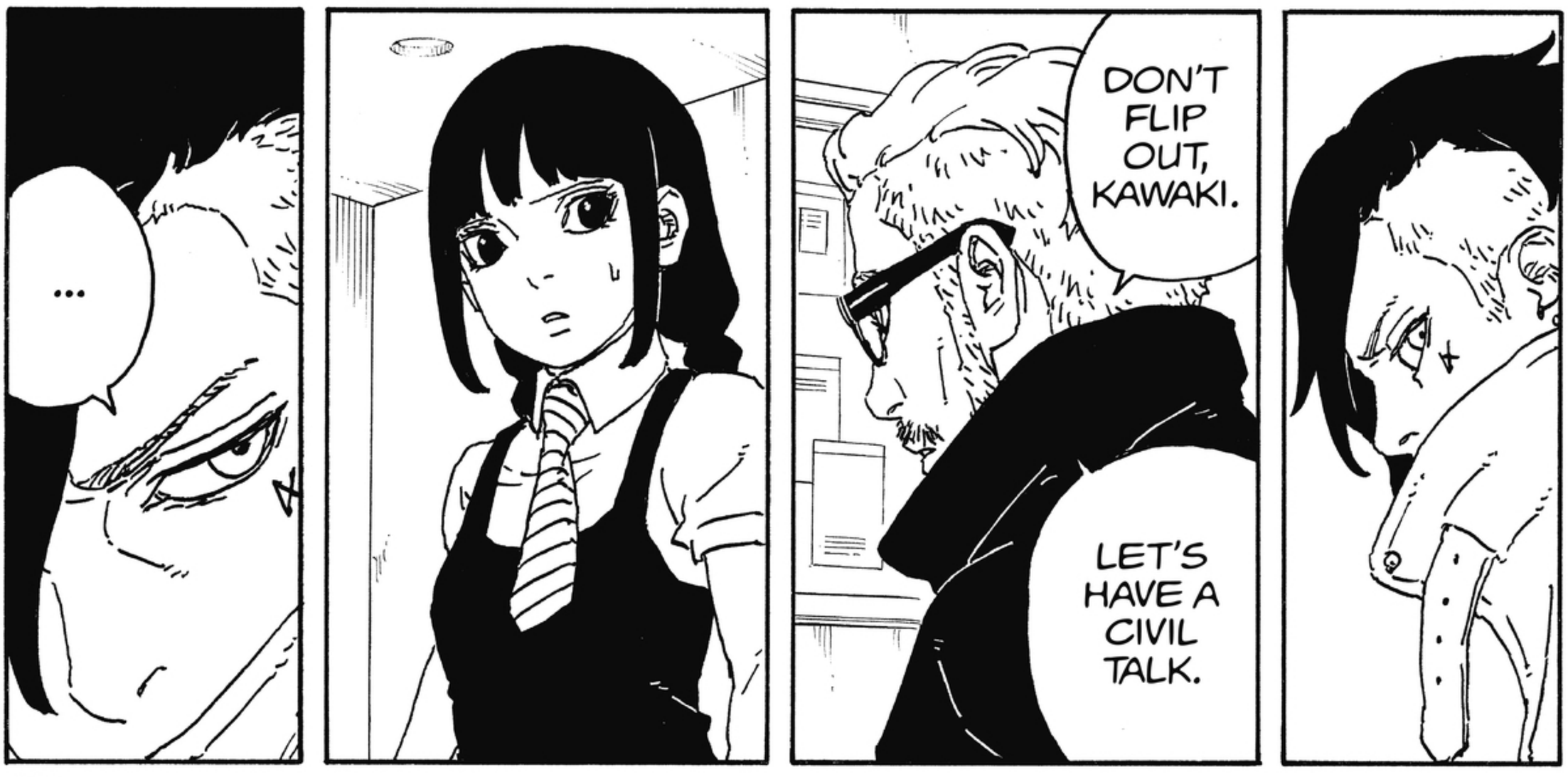
LIKE THE THORN BULBS.

BUT HE APPARENTLY KNOWS TOO MUCH ABOUT STUFF.

YEAH. A LOTTA OTHER THINGS TOO.
HE'S BECOME RATHER INCON-VENIENT FOR US.
SO ELDER JURA DECIDED TO KILL HIM.
...
THORN BULBS ...?
I THINK I RE-MEM-BER...
...BORUTO MENTION-ING THOSE.
HEY, RYU.
MAYBE WE CAN...
VVW
...USE ONE AS BAIT TO LURE BORUTO OUT.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
O O O O O O O

BLINK


GWOP


...
DON'T FLIP OUT, KAWAKI.
LET'S HAVE A CIVIL TALK.

I WILL HAVE TO MODIFY...

...YOUR ABILITY SETTINGS TO A FULLY OFFENSIVE POWER FORM...

...IN ORDER FOR YOU TO STAND UP TO THEM.

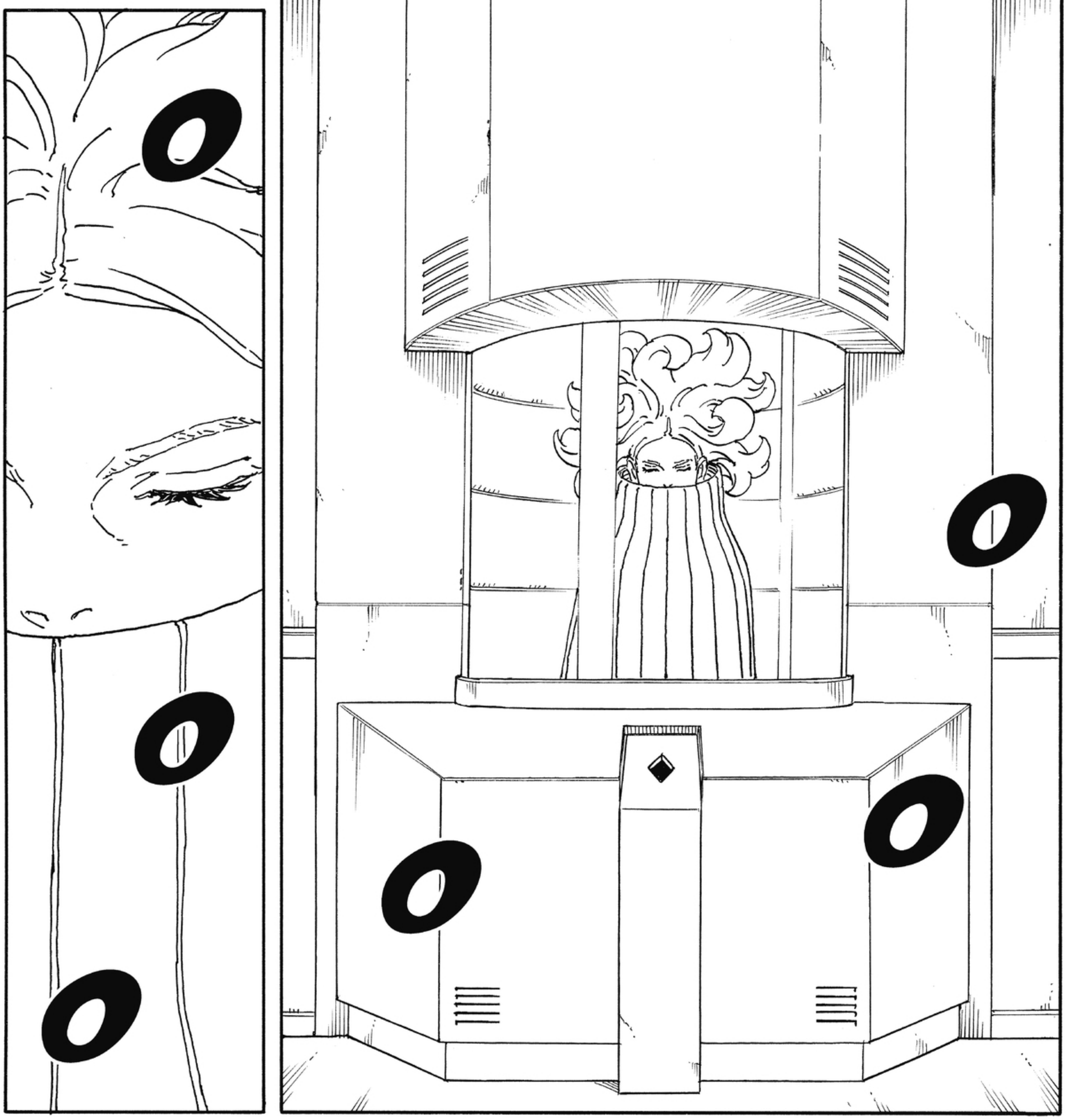
I DO HEAR YOUR POINT.

AND I DID NOT FORESEE THEIR EMERGENCE AT ALL.

THE DIVINE TREES ARE DEFINITELY A THREAT.

BUT ONLY...

...ON ONE CONDI-TION.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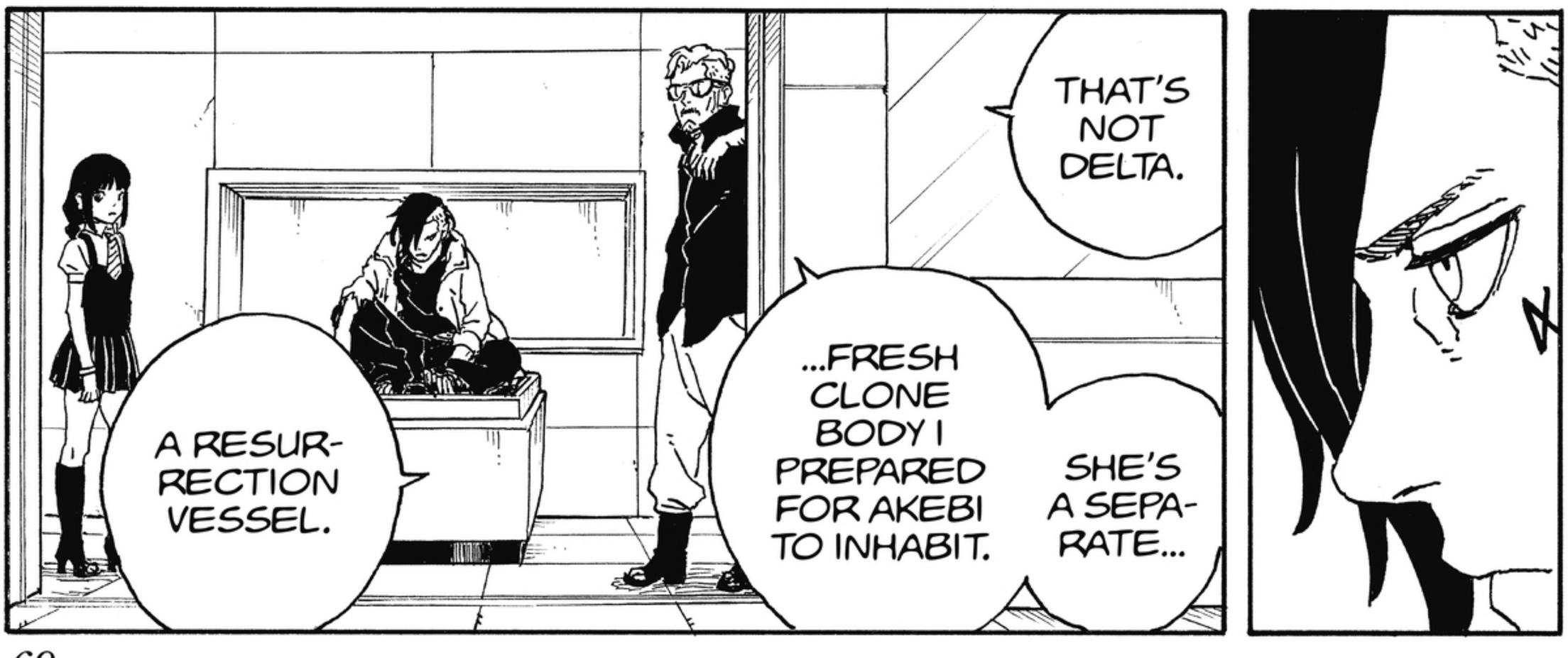

A RESUR-
RECTION
VESSEL.
...FRESH
CLONE
BODY I
PREPARED
FOR AKEBI
TO INHABIT.
SHE'S
A SEPA-
RATE...
THAT'S
NOT
DELTA.

RESUR-
RECTION,
USING AKEBI'S
DATA, WHICH
I ADDED
TO YOUR
KARMA...

...WILL
RESULT
IN HER
EXISTING
IN THIS
WORLD
ONCE
MORE.

ALL I
NEED
IS FOR
YOU...

...TO
IMPLANT
THIS
VESSEL
WITH A
KARMA...

...AND MY
DAUGHTER
CAN BE
REBORN.

EVERY-
THING I'VE
DONE UP
UNTIL
NOW...

IT'S
ALL
BEEN
FOR
THIS.

THIS IS
MY ONE
AND ONLY
PURPOSE
IN LIFE.

I FAILED AT
RE-CREATING
HER SOUL
TIME AFTER
TIME...

...BECAUSE
IT'S AN ACT
PERMITTED
ONLY TO
GODS.

...I BEG YOU...

...KAWAKI.

HELP ME ACHIEVE...

PLEASE...

...THIS DIVINE FEAT, WHICH IS ONLY POSSIBLE VIA THE KARMA.

...

THAT'S MY CONDITION.

THAT'S IT.

...I *WILL* KILL IT, NO EXCEPTIONS.

I'LL SAY THIS AGAIN.

IF YOUR REVIVED DAUGHTER...

...TURNS OUT TO BE AN OHTSU-TSUKI...

...

YOU CAN DO AS YOU PLEASE, THOUGH I'LL FIGHT YOU...

...WITH EVERY-THING I'VE GOT.

IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT...

...AKEBI TRULY...

...HAPPENS TO RESURRECT AS AN OHTSUTSUKI, FINE.

WHAT ?!

!

AMADO...

POWERING ME UP COMES FIRST.

...I CAN'T ACCEPT YOUR TERMS.

...THAT MIGHT BECOME A NEW ENEMY RIGHT NOW.

I'M NOT INTERESTED IN CREATING SOMETHING...

THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS IS THE ISSUE.

...ON THE PREMISE THAT I MIGHT KILL HER RIGHT AWAY.

LOOK, I SWEAR THAT I WILL IMPLANT A KARMA IN THAT CLONE...

...ALL OUR CURRENT FOES ARE WIPED OUT.

BUT ONLY *AFTER* ...

...

...JUST HEAR ME OUT...

KAWAKI, PLEASE ...

AND IF THOSE BASTARDS MANAGE TO KILL YOU...

...MY DREAMS DIE TOO!

YOU'RE CURRENTLY ENDOWED WITH NEAR-IMMORTAL DEFENSIVE AND RECUPERATIVE POWERS.

IF I REDIRECT ALL THAT TO OFFENSIVE POWER, I CAN'T GUARANTEE YOUR SURVIVAL!

LISTEN, KAWAKI...

HEY.

SO QUIT WORRYING ABOUT MY WELFARE, AMADO.

...TO MAKE ME AN EVEN BIGGER, BADDER MONSTER THAN THEM.

I'M TELLING YOU...

IT'S THE POTENTIAL TO KILL THEM.

WHAT I WANT ISN'T A GUARANTEE OF SURVIVAL.

DIVINE TREES...

...CODE...

...AND BORUTO.

YOU'LL ONLY REUNITE WITH YOUR DAUGHTER...

...AFTER ...

...I SLAUGHTER THEM ALL.

...WHETHER SCIENTIFIC OR OTHERWISE...

USE ANY MEANS...

...TO MAKE ME STRONGER BEYOND ALL LIMITS.

THIS IS THE BEST DAY OF MY LIFE.

TO GET TO TALK SO MUCH WITH YOU, KONOHA-MARU-CHAN!

WELL...

NOT THAT I'VE BEEN ALIVE VERY LONG.

BUT STILL, I'M SO HAPPY.

KONOHA-MARU-CHAN, WILL...

UM...

I'M SO SORRY, BUT COULD YOU...

...NOT CALL ME THAT?

W--

WAIT!

HOLD ON...

ER...

...

...WHO CALLS ME THAT.

THERE'S ...

...ONLY ONE PERSON...

...

WHY?

WHAT'S WRONG?

CALLING ME JUST KONOHA-MARU?

YOU DON'T MIND, DO YOU?

...BUT...

...IT'S GIVING ME GOOSE-BUMPS.

SO YOU SEE...

...IT SURPRISES ME TOO...

?!

ONLY ONE PERSON?

AND WHO'S THAT?

G-

G-

G-

OH...

DON'T READ TOO MUCH INTO IT.

G-

!

...TO BE REFERRING ...

YOU WOULDN'T HAPPEN...

...TO KAZAMATSURI MOEGI, WOULD YOU?

G-

G-

G-

I'M RIGHT, AREN'T I?

SO...

...TO YOU EXACTLY, HMM?

...WHAT IS THAT WOMAN...

G-

G-

G-

KRAK-KRAK

ANSWER ME!!

KRAK

SARUTOBI KONOHA-MARU!!!

AH, I SEE!

THAT'S SOME SUPER-SMART THINKING!

USE THE THORN BULB AS BAIT.

ZW

BOF

A THORN BULB!

JUST LIKE THE ONE I SAW BEFORE!

O

O

O

O

O

O

O

O

O

SO THAT'S...

...A THORN BULB!

...LET'S SEE IF THEY BITE.

NOW THEN...

TAK

!

YODO, NO!

KRNCH

WHA
...?!

I THOUGHT ...

...THAT THIS MIGHT BE THE CASE.

HEH HEH...

GOTCHA.

ZWOOO

WHAT THE?!

...MOVE AT ALL!

I CAN'T...

ZWOOO

...NOT AS DUMB AS HE ACTS!

HE'S...!

THAT'S SO LOW, DEAR SHINOBI FRIENDS.

...IS GONNA GIVE ME SERIOUS TRAUMA.

YOUR BETRAYAL ...

TWO

RYU'S IRON SAND...

...IS COATING OUR ENTIRE BODIES?!

O

O

O

CHK

I THINK ...

...YOU NEED TO BE PUNISHED.

TA

K

FWIP

?!

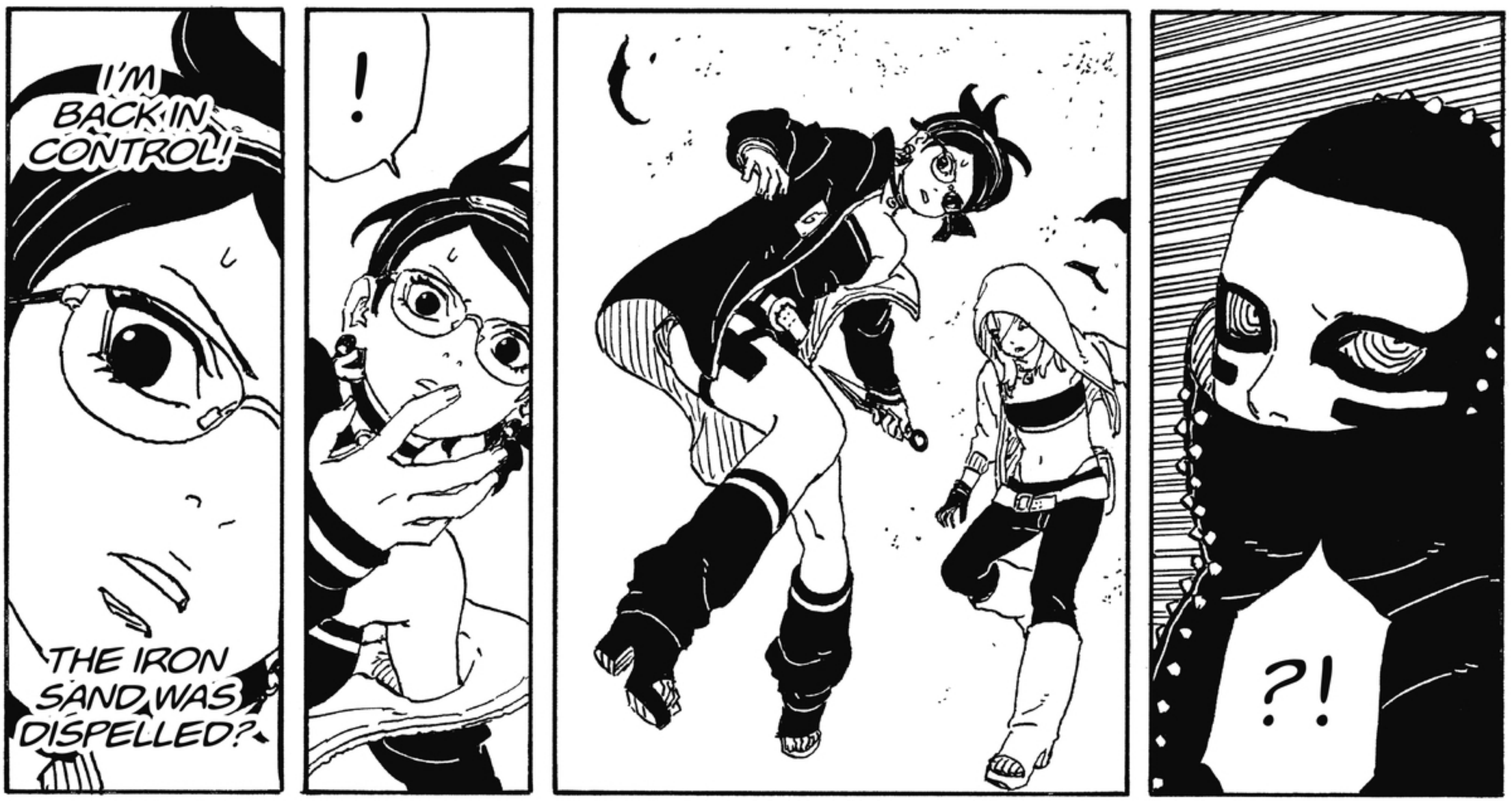
MY BODY'S MOVING ON ITS OWN!

WE'RE ALL BEING MANIP-ULATED BY IT!!

IT'S THE IRON SAND!

JUST LIKE PUPPETS!!

WHOP


I'M BACK IN CONTROL!
!
THE IRON SAND WAS DISPELLED?
?!

ZWOO

SHINKI ...

...THAT I CREATED FOR US, IN THIS WAY.

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D HAVE TO USE THIS JUTSU...

WILL YOU LEND US A HAND TOO...

SHINKI...

...WITH THIS BATTLE?

THAT'S SO NOT FAIR!!

WHAT THE HECK!

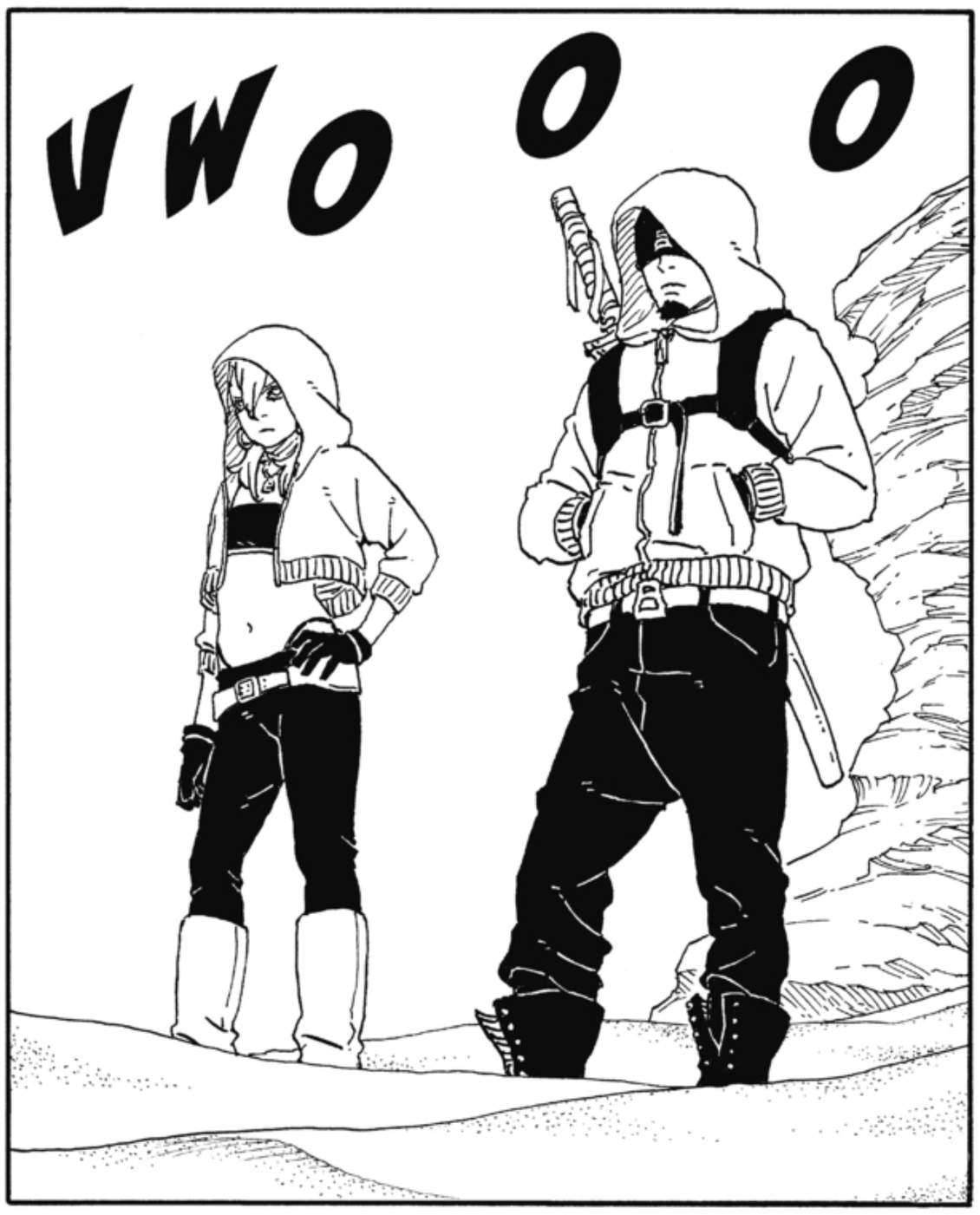
O O

W

V

LOAD-STONE...

...SAND-SEALING BLADE!


VWOOO

19: Konohamaru-chan

VWN

...

WHAT'D YOU DO?

FSH

THAT SHOULD DO IT.

GO ON, TAKE IT.

...YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO MANIPULATE IRON SAND SOMEWHAT.

SIMILAR TO HOW I CAN.

IF YOU APPLY YOUR WIND-STYLE SWORD JUTSU TO IT...

I INFUSED THE BLADE WITH MY CHAKRA.

IF ANYTHING, THIS'LL BE THE PERFECT HANDICAP.

GIMME A BREAK.

YOU'LL HAVE NO CHANCE AGAINST ME WHEN WE SPAR.

YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?

...

KSHNK

WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT.

HAH.

FATHER THIS, FATHER THAT.

ALL YOU TALK ABOUT IS YOUR ADOPTED FATHER.

IT'S ALL FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROTECTING FATHER BETTER.

THAT'S WHY I WANT TO EXPAND OUR POWERS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

...

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?

OF COURSE.

...

...

...

YOU SHOULD...

...PAY YODO SOME ATTENTION TOO.

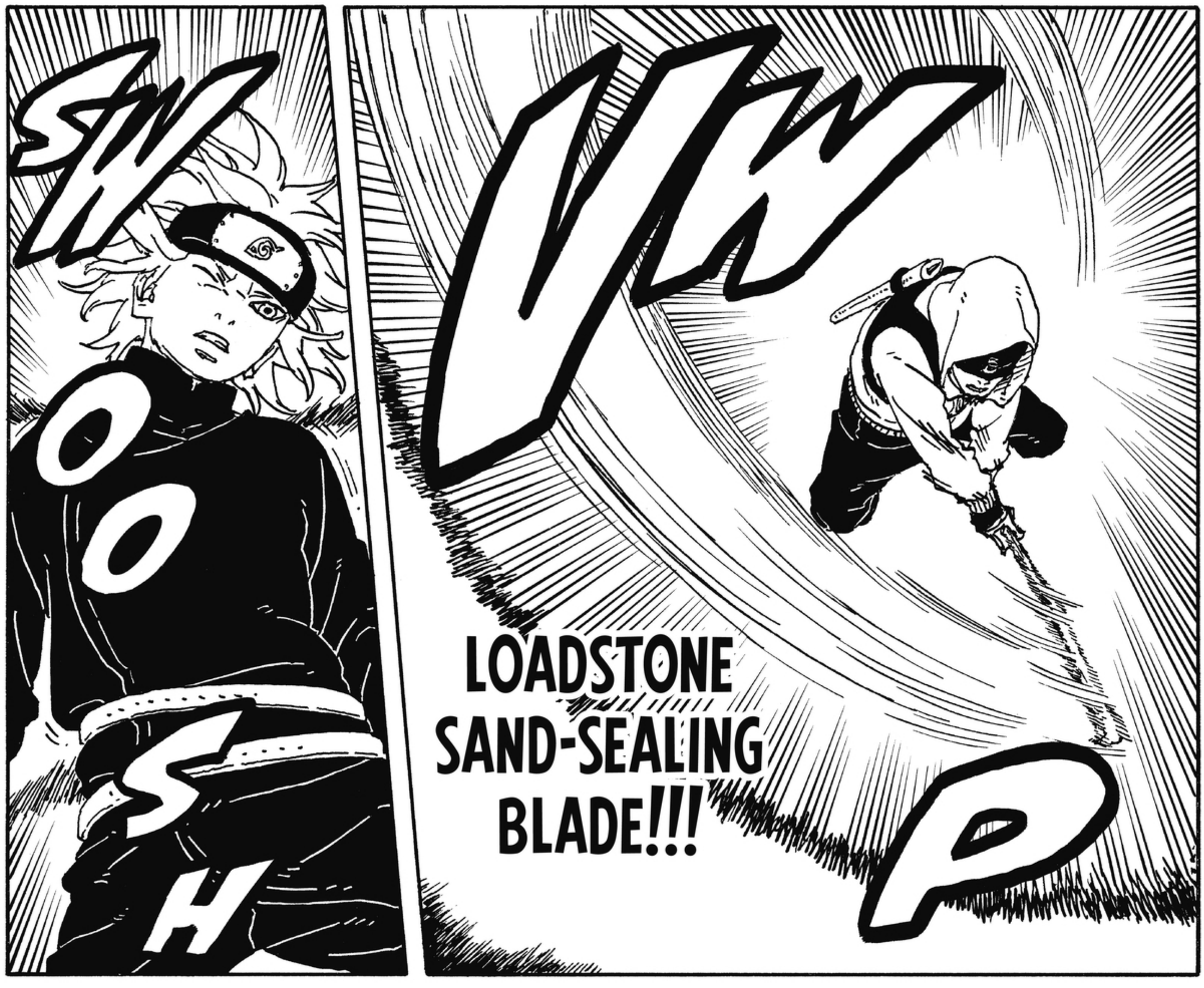
WHO'S A HYP-OCRITE NOW?

ALL *YOU* TALK ABOUT IS YODO.

VWOOO

...

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT...


SH
SH
LOADSTONE SAND-SEALING BLADE!!!

NICE!

THE IRON SAND RESTRAINING MITSUKI'S BEEN DISPELLED TOO!

VOOSH

TMP

THANK YOU, ARAYA.

...AFTER WE'VE RESCUED HIM.

GIVE YOUR THANKS TO SHINKI...

I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIS IRON SAND FOR YOU.

MITSUKI, SARADA...

YOU TWO FOCUS ON ATTACKING HIM.

I SEE YOU'RE TOTALLY DISSING ME.

WELL, AREN'T YOU BEING AWFULLY CONFI-DENT.

BUT THAT'S OKAY...

ROGER THAT!

...IT'S PUMPING ME UP MORE!
...CUZ...

SHWP
FWIP
SWOOSH

IN-
COMING!

FROM
SEVEN
O'CLOCK
!!

HMPH.

SHA

SPOOSH

FWP-WP

TAK

I SEE.

YOU'RE NOT JUST ALL TALK.

WOOSH

FIRE-STYLE...

...FIREBALL JUTSU!!!

BOOSH

ZZOO

ZW
O
P
BO
OF
WAP
!!

G-
G-
G-
G-
G-
TWO

BIFF

VSSSH

?!

BE CARE-FUL!

HE'LL CONTROL YOUR BODIES AGAIN!

O

IT SEEMS HE CAN TURN HIMSELF INTO IRON SAND TOO?

NO, NOT AT ALL...

HE DIS-INTEGRATED HIMSELF AND EVADED MY ATTACK!

O O

YOU GOT HIM?!

...I CAN HEAR SAND GRAINS RUBBING TOGETHER.

IT'S FAINT, BUT AT TWO O'CLOCK...

HEY, EVERY-ONE.

O O

O O

...THAT'S WHERE HE IS!

I THINK ...

...

VWN

ON IT!

SHH

FWP

LOADSTONE SAND-SEALING BLADE!!!

ZSHH

?!

WHAT THE?!

HE CAN GATHER UP IRON SAND AS WELL?!!

DSHHT

GO FOR IT!!!

SASH

SBS

ZWW

ZWWW

GOFF !!

SHK

YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY!!

CHIDORI!!!!!

SPLOOSH

GRGGH !!

YOU GOT HIM?

...

DAMMIT!

NO, IT WAS TOO SHALLOW!

SKATTER

CHK

WE'LL TRACK HIM DOWN...

...TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH!

HE JUST TURNED HIMSELF INTO SAND AND HID AGAIN!

I DON'T LIKE IT!!!

I TOLD YOU ALREADY !!!

IT DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT!!!

I JUST WANT TO CALL YOU KONOHA-MARU-CHAN!!!

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?!!!

VWOOO

I CAN'T CHANGE HOW I FEEL!!!

AND I SHOULDN'T HAVE TO EXPLAIN MYSELF EITHER!!!

IT'S SO UNFAIR!!!

AND YET...

...YOU LET THAT WENCH MOEGI CALL YOU THAT!!!

WHY'RE YOU SO FUSSY...

...OVER WHAT TO CALL ME ANYWAY?!

YOU'RE THE ONE BEING SELFISH !!!

HOW CAN YOU BE SO SELFISH ?!!

JUST LET ME CALL YOU WHAT I WANT!!

FUSSY ?!

HYP- OCRITE !!

YOU'RE THE PICKY ONE...

GUH !!!!

...SARU- TOBI!!

I THINK...

BUT THAT'S BEYOND YOU, ISN'T IT, *KONOHAMARU-CHAN*?

...THE ISSUE ISN'T ***WHAT*** SHE WANTS TO CALL YOU...

...SO MUCH AS IT IS THAT YOU TWO DON'T SHARE A RELATION-SHIP THAT ALLOWS IT.

...AND IS ABOUT TO GET DEVOURED.

HE ROYALLY PISSED OFF MATSURI...

KONOHA-MARU'S IN A PINCH.

CAN THEY TAKE DOWN RYU?

WHAT ABOUT SARADA AND THE OTHERS?

WHAT'S THE SITU-ATION?

EIDA.

I KNOW YOU WANT TO RUSH OVER THERE...

NOW'S NOT THE TIME.

...BUT DON'T.

...

...BUT IT'S STILL TOO EARLY TO TELL HOW THINGS WILL END.

THEY'RE HOLDING THEIR OWN...

SO THEY'RE IN NO POSITION TO GO HELP KONOHA-MARU RIGHT NOW.

...

IDEALLY, IN MY OPINION...

...LIFE-FORMS SHOULD...

...OBEY THEIR INSTINCTS TO STRIVE TOWARDS THE GOAL KNOWN AS EVOLUTION.

YET, BECAUSE OF THEIR SOCIAL NATURE...

...HUMANS BIND THEM-SELVES WITH RESTRAINTS...

...CALLED ***REASONING***, DULLING THAT INSTINCT.

I SEE...

POOR, POOR HUMANS, BUT...

...IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH US.

IT'S A HARMFUL SIDE EFFECT OF ACQUIRING INTELLI-GENCE.

AND IT'S WHY HUMANKIND FACES CARRIES A FATAL FLAW...

...UNLIKE US DIVINE TREES, WHO STAY TRUE TO OUR INSTINCTS.

IT'S CALLED *LOVE.*

AH, NOT SO FAST.

FOR THAT ISN'T THE ONLY HARMFUL EFFECT OF INTELLI-GENCE.

...OF CAUSING EVEN US DIVINE TREES SERIOUS PROBLEMS.

THIS OTHER CONCEPT CARRIES WITH IT THE RISK...

MY HEAD IS SO FULL OF THOUGHTS OF YOU...

...IT'S DRIVING ME BATTY!!

GRAB

NNH !!

...

AND THAT'S PRECISELY WHY...

YEAH.

HEY!

CALM DOWN !!

WHY DO I HAVE TO HAVE THESE FEELINGS ?!

...AND MAKES ME CRAZY MAD!!

IT'S SO PAINFUL ...

...I WOULDN'T EVER...

BECAUSE ...

...IF I DEVOURED YOU...

...HAVE TO FEEL THIS WAY AGAIN.

...IS THAT THEY WERE ALL AWARE...

...OF HOW FOOLISH THAT DECISION WAS.

WHAT'S SHOCKING ...

EACH OF THE INO-SHIKA-CHO TRIO ARE ACCOM-PLISHED SHINOBI...

...BUT THEY PRIORITIZED HIMAWARI'S SAFETY OVER THEIR OWN TEAM'S.

...AND ENDED UP NEEDLESSLY LOSING HIS LIFE.

IN PARTICULAR, YAMANAKA INOJIN LOST HIS COM-POSURE...

IS IT A DISEASE ?

...THIS LOVE THING?

SO WHAT IS...

BOTH OF THESE FOOLISH ACTS...

...WERE CAUSED BY LOVE DERAILING THEIR THINKING.

AT THE VERY LEAST, THE FACT...

...THAT IT CAN CAUSE SERIOUS TROUBLE IN LIFE-FORMS CANNOT BE OVER-LOOKED.

THE TERM ITSELF APPEARS IN MANY TOMES...

...BUT IT SEEMS IMPOS-SIBLE TO PIN DOWN.

...DANGER-OUS CONCEPT, LOVE...

...THAT WE MUST UNDER-STAND THIS...

OUR INSTINCTS SCREAMING IN WARNING...

I'M SURE YOU HEAR IT TOO.

...AND OVER-COME IT.

VWOOOO

GET READY.

I'LL DRAG HIM OUT.

CHK

I HEAR SOME-THING ABOVE US.

HE'S UP IN THE SKY!

ZWW

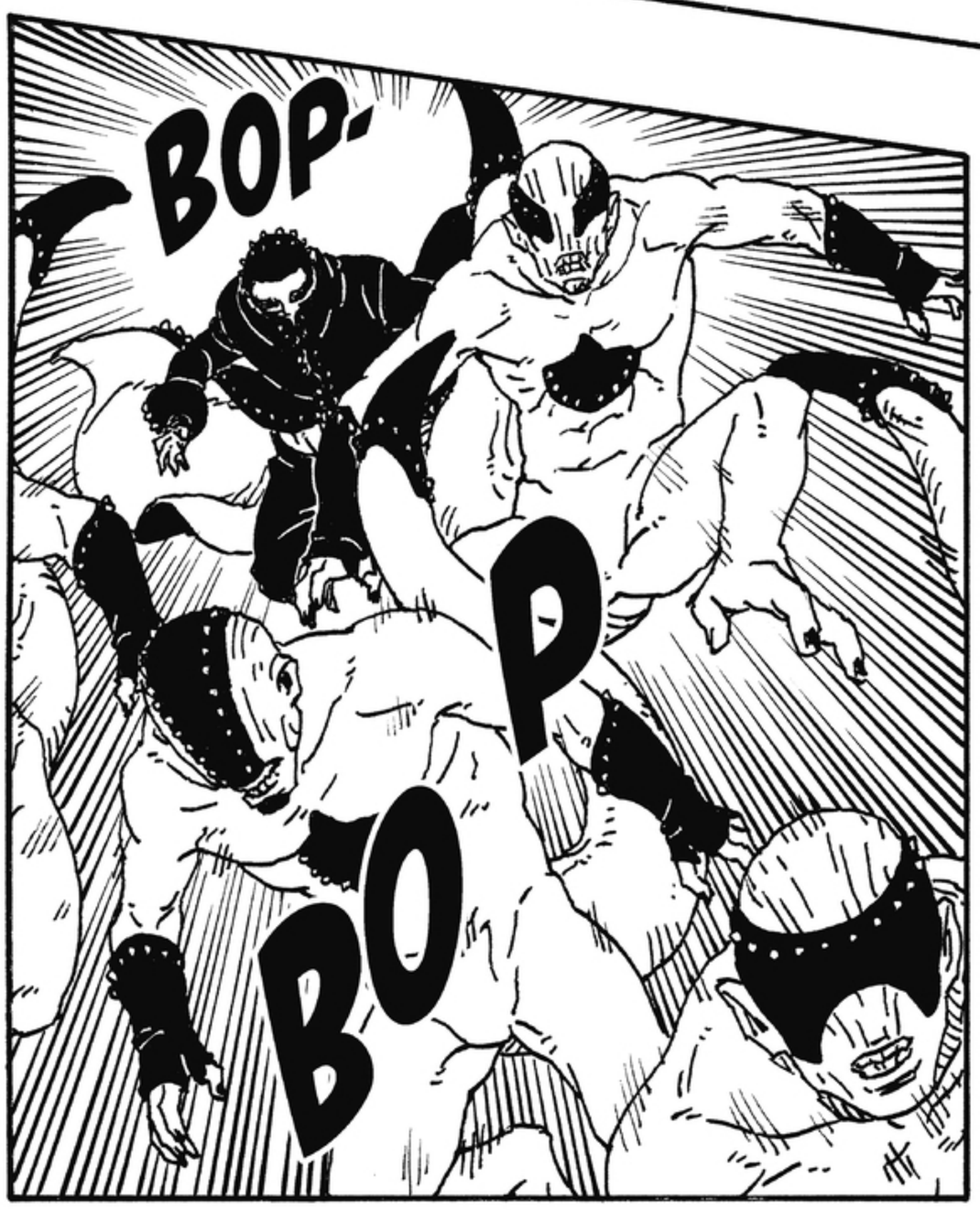
HIDE ALL YOU WANT...

...BUT IT'S USE-LESS!!

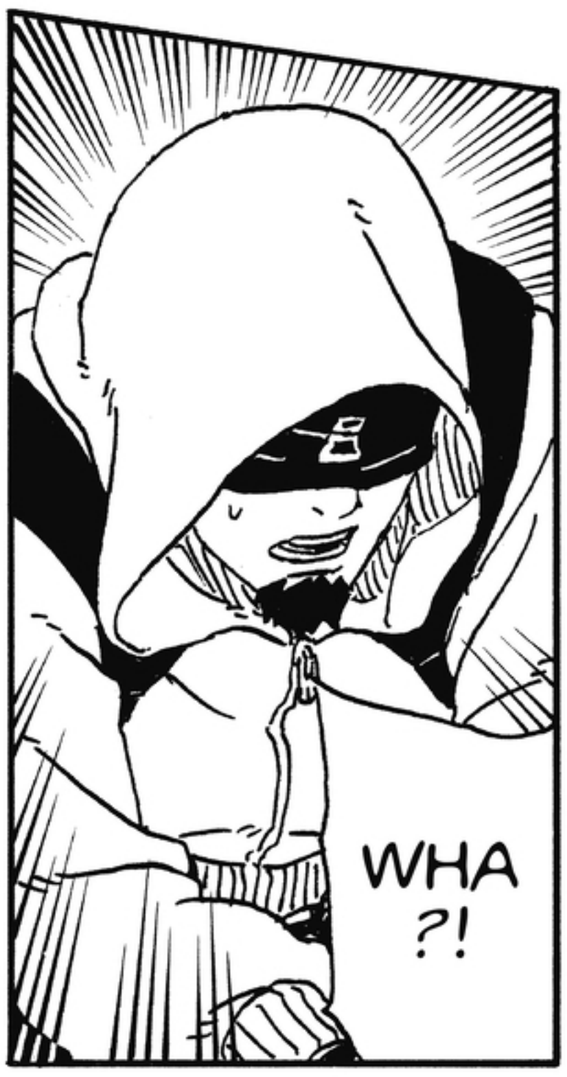
SHE

SWG

SMASH


BOP-
BOP

CLAW GRIMES !!


WHA ?!

THWO

WHAM

BOOSH

CRASH

PHOENIX FLOWER JUTSU!!!

DAMMIT! CAN'T GET THEM ALL!

THERE ARE WAY TOO MANY!!

FW

A

A

GW

TM

P

GW

OMP

UGH !!!

BAS-TARD!

GK

TTTT

YODO !!!

IT'S STUCK?!

?!!

GWP

TAK

GRB

SHU!

DWOOSH

ZW

?!

WHAT THE?!

HEH HEH.

AND NOW...

...YOU HAVE NO WAY TO DEFEND AGAINST MY IRON SAND.

IT TOOK MY BLADE WITH IT!!

THIS IS BAD!!

CRAP!

SO...

URGH !!

KAKKK

PIK PIK PIK

...LET'S NOW BECOME ONE...

...KONOHA-MARU-CHAN.

20: Because of Love

KRAK

GAK !!

KRAK

KRAK

KRAK

GUH!!

AGH...

YOU WHINE WAY TOO MUCH.

WILL SNAPPING YOUR NECK SHUT YOU UP?

I'LL LET YOU CHOOSE...

...KONOHA-MARU-CHAN.

WOULD YOU RATHER KEEP CHATTING RIGHT UP UNTIL THE MOMENT I DEVOUR YOU?

OR...

...ARE STILL INNOCENT CUBLINGS.

WIN THEM OVER.

BECOME FRIENDS WITH THEM.

...THAT GETTING TO TALK SO MUCH...

DIDN'T YOU...

...SAY EARLIER...

...MADE THIS THE BEST DAY OF YOUR LIFE?!

TAME 'EM, WHILE THESE WILD BEASTS...

IF YOU DEVOUR ME, I'LL DIE!

...

...BE ABLE TO TALK LIKE THIS EVER AGAIN!!

AND THEN WE WON'T...

BUT...

IT *WAS* FUN, SURE.

YEAH.

IT FELT LIKE MY SANITY WAS SLIPPING AWAY.

...IT WAS SIMULTA-NEOUSLY TERRIFYING ...

THAT'S WHAT HAS BECOME CLEAR TO ME!

YOU MAKE ME CRAZY.

YOU'RE DANGEROUS TO ME.

MY DEFENSIVE INSTINCT TELLS ME TO ELIMINATE THE DANGER.

CON-VERSELY...

...

AS THEY MIX TOGETHER...

...THERE'S THE PART OF ME THAT DESIRES YOU.

...TO DEVOUR YOU!

...I FEEL COM-PELLED...

AAAA-AARGH!!

GRRR

GRRR

FWP.

WP

BO

OF

WIND STYLE!
SAND STORM
BLAST!!!

H

VOO

SH

GW

O

O

O

DSH

WAH!

ASH

DAMMIT!

ASH

VSH

OOPS

SSSH

ZZSH

TAK TAK

WH AM

BAM

GWOP

FWP

WAH!
FSH
JRK
FSH
OOSH
PAT

DSSH

GRK!

MITSUKI !!

ZWW

GAH ...

!

WSUH

UGH ...

LOOKS LIKE...

...CHECK-MATE...

...MY "FRIENDS."

HEH HEH...

ZWWW

STOP SAYING STUPID THINGS.

I'M NOT LETTING ANY OF YOU ESCAPE.

AGH...

YODO, SARADA!!

FORGET US!!

JUST SAVE YOUR-SELV—

GUH...

SQZ

...DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO ME EITHER.

...JUST KILLING ALL OF YOU HERE AND NOW...

THEN AGAIN...

HUH?!

IN FACT, SHARE WHATEVER INTEL YOU HAVE ON THEM WITH ME...

ANY WEAK-NESSES WOULD BE COOL TOO.

ALL OF YOU.

...AND I'LL LET YOU GO.

AH... LET'S DO THIS.

OHTSU-TSUKI BORUTO...

TELL ME WHERE EITHER OF THEM ARE.

...OR EVEN HIS ACCOM-PLICE...

GWW

HAKK

DON'T FALL FOR IT!

I BET HE'LL KILL US REGARD-LESS!

JUST RUN!!

SARADA !!

YOU'RE THE ONES WHO BROKE THEIR WORD FIRST.

I'M OF-FENDED.

TELL HIM...

...WHERE BORUTO IS!

YOU KNOW, DON'T YOU?

DON'T LUMP ME IN WITH YOU.

WHAT OTHER CHOICE DO WE HAVE?!

DON'T BE RIDICU-LOUS!

HOW CAN YOU BELIEVE HIM?!

YODO ?!

!

YOU'RE OKAY STAYING SILENT AND GETTING KILLED?!

IT'S GOTTA BE A TRAP!!

JUST SPILL WHAT-EVER YOU KNOW!

WE'RE GONNA BE SLAUGH-TERED OTHER-WISE!!

...ABOUT ...

WE...

...YET WE KNOW ALMOST NO CRUCIAL INTEL ABOUT HIM...

...MAY HAVE TAKEN BORUTO'S SIDE OUT-WARDLY...

SORRY, BUT...

...I WON'T SELL A FRIEND OUT TO SAVE MYSELF!!

NOT THAT I EVEN HAVE ANY INTEL TO SHARE...

I'VE LONG WONDERED WHY YOU KEEP STICKING UP FOR A ROGUE NINJA...

...WHO'S SOUGHT BY HIS VILLAGE FOR COMMITTING SERIOUS OFFENSES...

...BUT I THINK I FINALLY UNDER-STAND.

...

BUT...

...ISN'T IT BE-CAUSE OF THAT...

...THAT WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO LIVE FREELY LIKE THIS?

...THE REST OF THE WORLD HATES HIM, RIGHT?

HE'S THE KIND OF GUY WHO MAKES YOU...

...WANT TO ALWAYS HAVE HIS BACK, EVEN IF...

HUH ?

...THE SAME WAY ABOUT SHINKI.

I FEEL...

SO WHAT SAY YOU?

SHOULD I GO AHEAD AND KILL YOU?

UH, HELLO? YOU STILL THERE?

GUH...

...

SO NO ABILITY TO NEGO-TIATE.

...

I SEE.

IF YOU'D BE AMENABLE ...

NOT SO FAST.

HOLD UP, RYU!

THE PROB-LEM...

...IS THAT WE DON'T HAVE ANY INTEL ON BORUTO!

YODO?

...YOU CAN HAVE ME INSTEAD.

YOU IDIOT!!

...USING MY ENEMY-DETECTING ABILITIES.

I'LL CO-OPERATE WITH YOU...

...

I'LL START GATHERING IT FOR YOU NOW.

I'LL GET YOU WHATEVER INTEL YOU WANT.

AND IN RETURN...

...YOU'LL LET THE OTHER THREE GO!

G...

GAH!

KRAK

KRAK

GAA-AAH!!

WHAT THE?

...

... DRIPPING FROM MY EYES?!

WHAT'S THIS...

?!

TRK

!

PLIP

JRK

MATSURI !!!!

!!

YOU'RE SHEDDING TEARS.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

...JUST FROM HIM CALLING MY NAME. WHY?

MY HEART IS RACING...

!

...TEARS?

... THIS LIQUID POURING FROM MY EYES?!

AND WHAT IS...

BDMP

BDMP

...

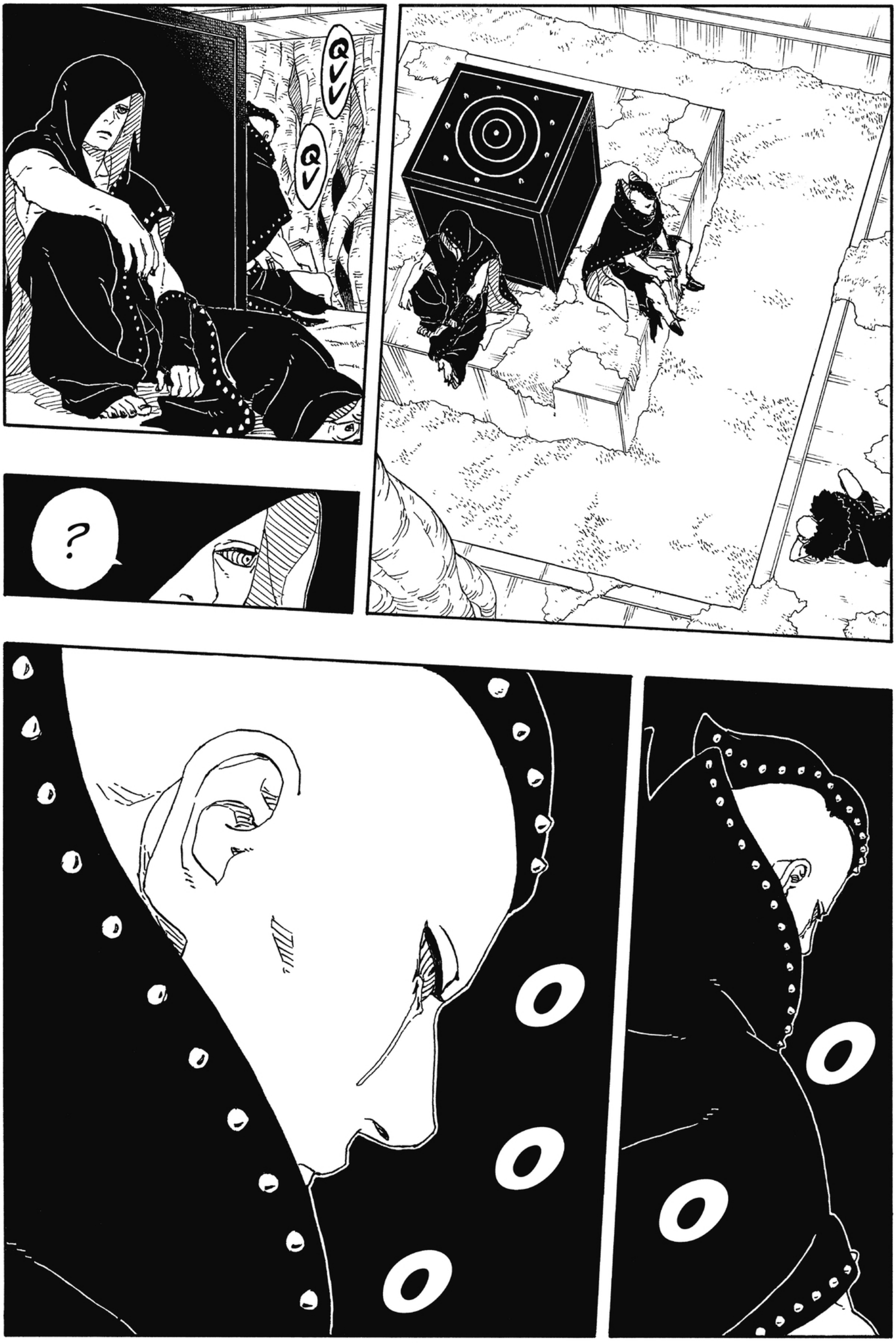
PLIP

PLIP

YOU MUST BE FEELING SAD!!

...YOU DON'T WANT TO KILL ME!!

WHICH MEANS...


QVV
QV
?

AND WHAT...

...IS GOING ON WITH ME?

TEARS?

WHAT THE HECK ARE TEARS?

...

MATSU-RI...

DO ME A FAVOR.

...

...SQUEEZE MY HANDS?

COULD YOU...

THAT'S HOW...

LET'S JOIN HANDS.

...

...RELATION-SHIPS START.

...SPECIAL ...

HUH?

...RELATION-SHIPS?

SPECIAL...

...

...FOR THE TWO OF US.

IT'LL BE THE FIRST STEP...

THAT'S RIGHT.

SQZ

FSH

BDMP

BDMP

TAME 'EM, WHILE THESE WILD BEASTS ARE STILL INNOCENT CUBLINGS.

WIN THEM OVER.

KONOHA-MARU.

...

SO WARM...

AND THEN...

BECOME FRIENDS WITH THEM.

...BETRAY THEM.

...RASEN-GAN!!!!

GIANT...

...YOUR HEART REEL JUST NOW?

DID...

THIS IS A PERFECT PLAN, IF YOU TRULY...

GET THEM...

...CONSIDER THEM NOTHING BUT FOES.

...TO DROP THEIR GUARD SO YOU CAN KILL THEM.

KONOHA-MARU-CHAN...

...AND ALLOWED HIM...

...MATSURI WAVERED OVER DEVOURING HIM...

...TO TRICK HER AND DELIVER A PAINFUL COUNTER-ATTACK.

AND ALSO BECAUSE OF LOVE...

...SARUTOBI KONOHA-MARU...

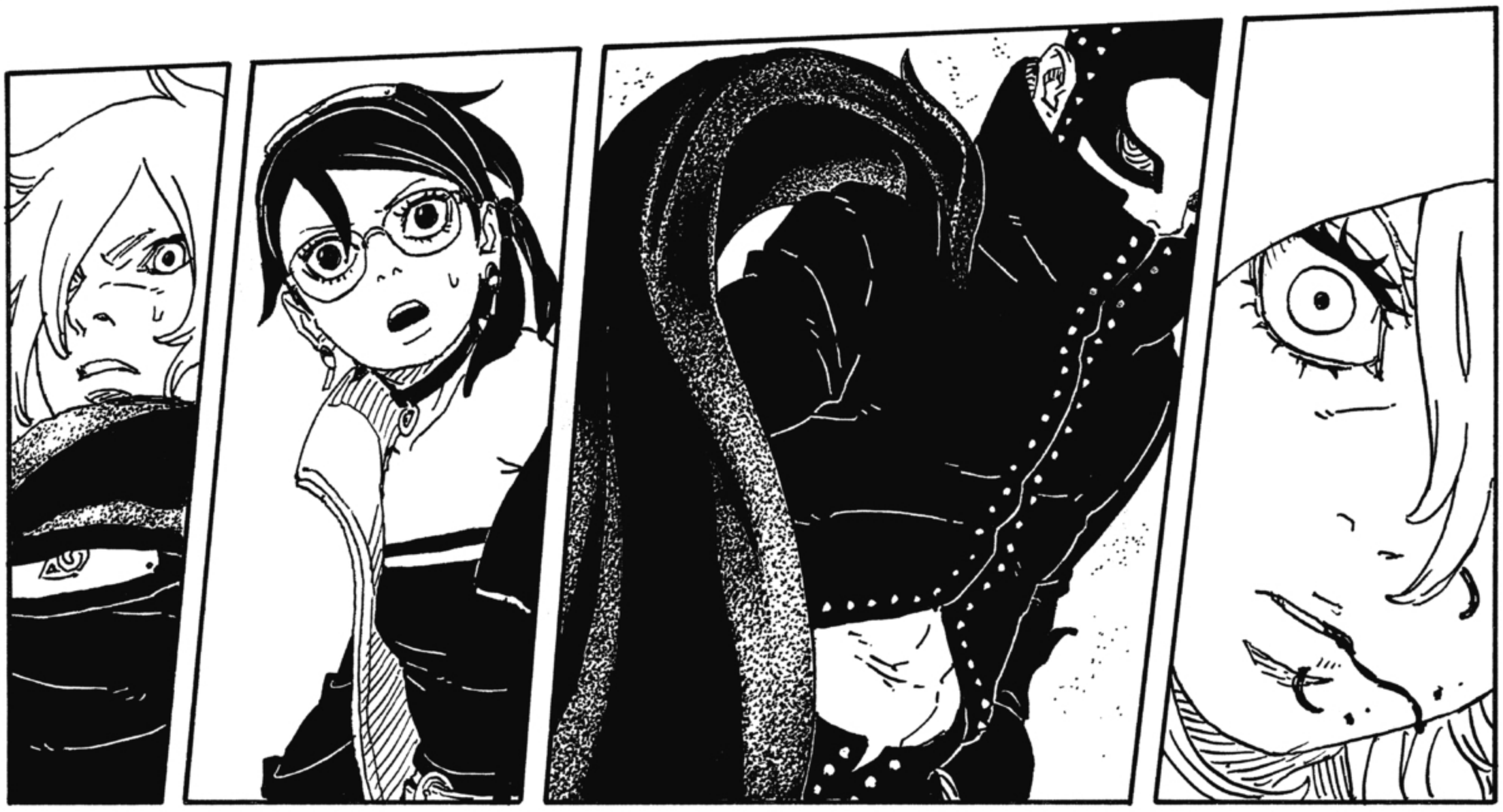
BECAUSE OF LOVE...

...AND FOOLISHLY ...

...FELL PREY TO DOUBT...

...LET VICTORY...

...SLIP AWAY FROM HIS GRASP.



AND PLEASE DON'T TALK DOWN TO ME.

THAT'LL BE A "NO THANKS."

I GET ANNOYED EASILY.

HANG IN THERE!!

YODO !!!

YODO !!!!

DAMMIT !!!

YOU BASTARD !!!

NO WAY...

...

GOFF

WHY CAN'T THINGS GO WELL...

...FOR ONCE?

...DONE FOR...

...THAT I'M...

I KNOW...

IT'S OKAY...

HNGH!!

ZWW

YODO !!

ZWWW

LAST ONE IN THE BAG.

HEH HEH HEH.

NOW YOU'RE ALL OBEDIENT PUPPETS OF MINE.

...

SARADA.

...BUT I CAN HEAR IT REAL WELL...

I'M NOT SURE WHY... IT'S HAP-PENING NOW...

HUH?

...

YOU...

YOUR FEEL-INGS.

...YOU WANNA BE STRONG.

WHY...

...DON'T KNOW YOUR-SELF...

...AT ALL, DO YOU?

...DELUDING YOURSELF...

...SUBCON-SCIOUSLY...

YOU'RE PROBABLY...

IT'S CLEAR TO ME...

I...CAN TELL RIGHT NOW.

...THAT YOU MISUNDER-STAND...

WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

...

I'M REFERRING TO...

...THAT *POWER* YOU'VE BEEN LETTING ROT.

CHK

!

...YOU CLING TO LIFE.

HOW STUB-BORNLY...

WHY DON'T WE FINISH YOU OFF?

YOU SEEM TO BE IN PAIN.

HNGH!

STOP, I—

YOU'RE ALLOWED ...

...TO USE IT FOR...

...AND ONLY FOR...

...OR WHAT YOU'RE HOLDING BACK FOR...

I DUNNO WHY...

...BUT IT'S OKAY...

...JUST THE GREATER GOOD.

...TO USE IT FOR THINGS OTHER THAN...

WII

TO PROTECT THEM.

...THAT SPECIAL PERSON...

...IN YOUR LIFE.

ZWW

...LET'S GET GO—

OKAY, UCHIHA GIRL...

ZWWW

?!

?

DNK

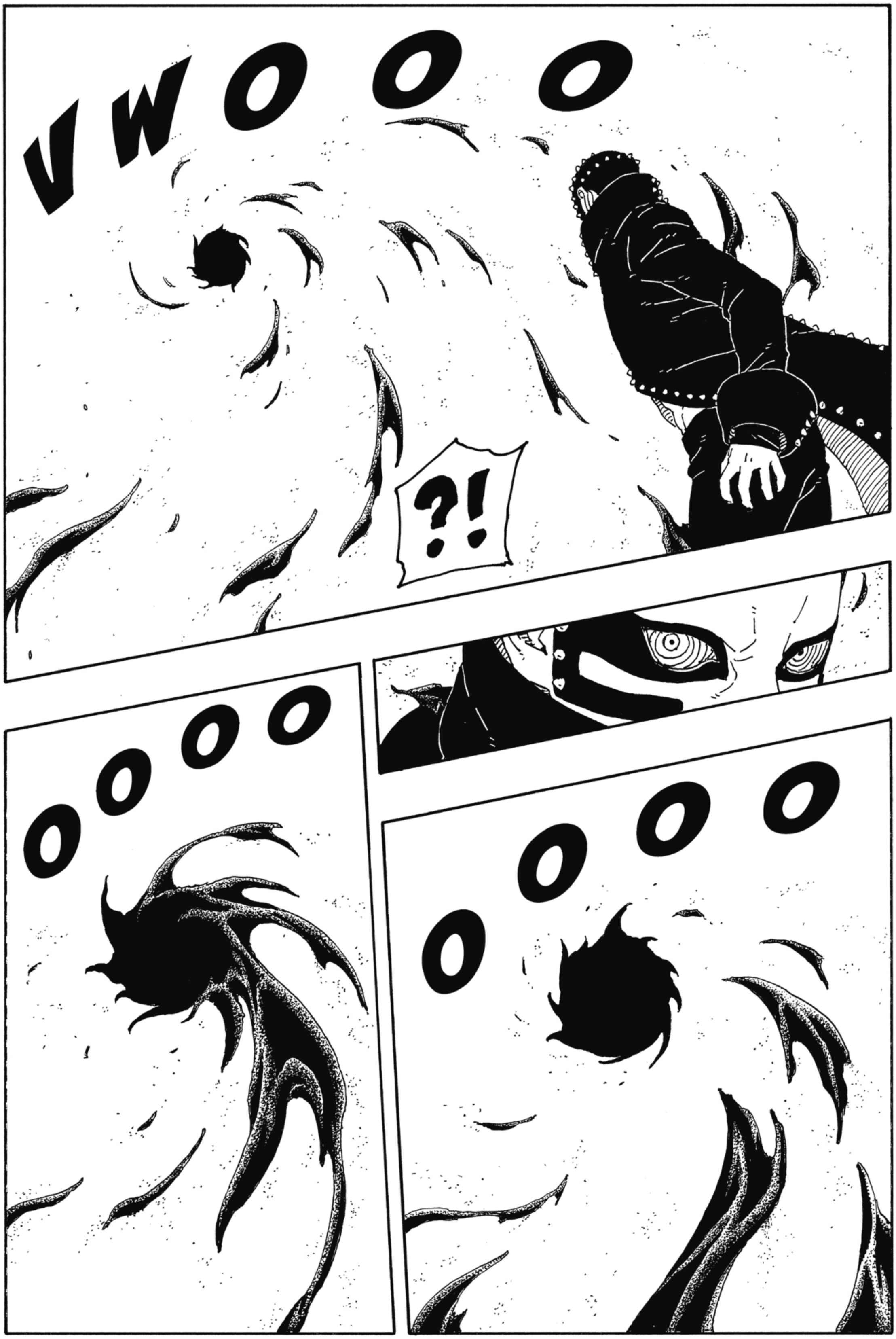
ZWOOOSH

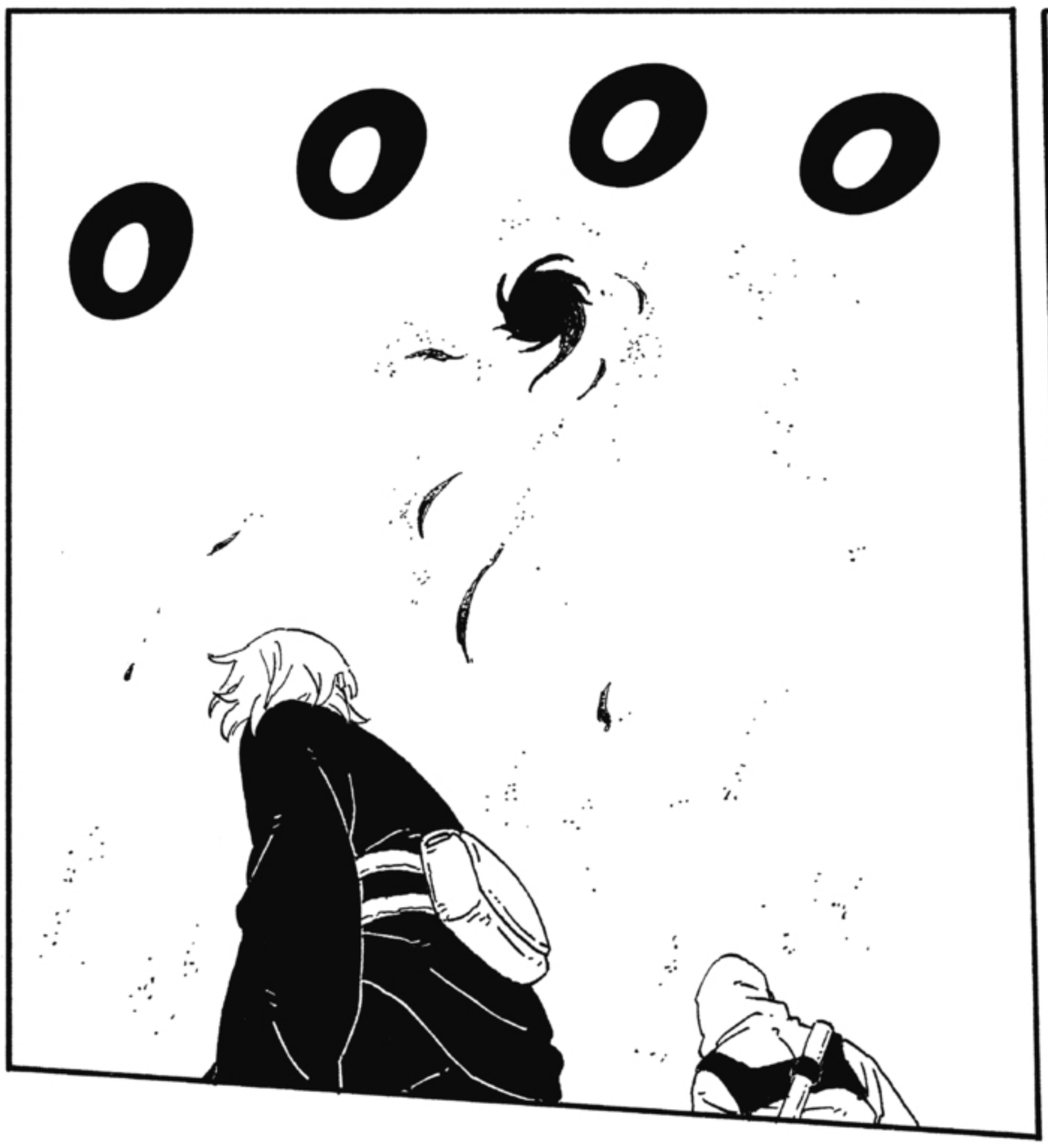
PLOP

WHAT THE? THE IRON SAND...

?!

...IS PEELING AWAY?!


WOOO
?!
OOOO
OOOO


O O O O

!
THE RESTRAINTS ARE GONE.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

O O O O O

THE IRON SAND IS GATHERING IN ONE SPOT.
IT'S BEING SUCKED IN?!
NO...

!

HER EYES ARE...
...
...MANGEKYO SHARINGAN!!

To celebrate the 9th anniversary of the BORUTO manga!

Q&A with Ikemoto Mikio!

We bring you the Q&A with Ikemoto Sensei that appeared in *V Jump*'s July 2025 Issue!

Q. Please tell us about the conversation between Boruto and Sasuke where Boruto changes how he refers to Sasuke.

A. When Sasuke leaves Konoha together with him, Boruto becomes even more strongly conscious of "Sasuke is my teacher and I am his disciple."

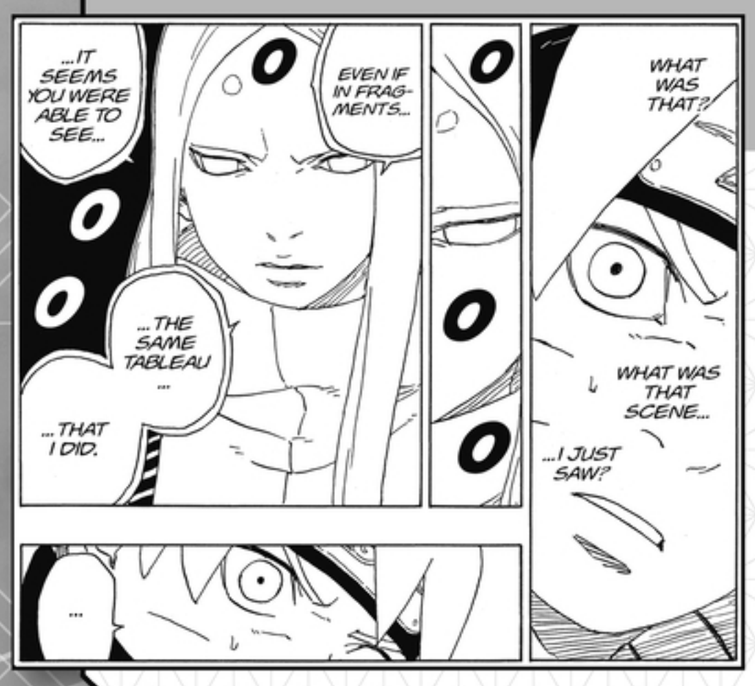
As someone who always focuses on the outward appearance of things, Boruto already switches to calling Sasuke "Master" the day after they leave Konoha. Sasuke initially resists but eventually accepts it since it is the truth.

Q. Was it Kurama's "intensity" that Daemon sensed in Himawari?

A. To be accurate, what Daemon perceived was the high potential and promise of the synergistic effect between Kurama's chakra and the blood of Uzumaki and Hyuga that flows inside Himawari.

Q. Is there a reason why Eida and Daemon wear celestially themed accessories?

A. We thought an astronomical motif would be suitable in order to give the impression that they are somewhat removed, adrift, from Naruto and Boruto's worldview, and also because they possess out-of-this-world abilities.

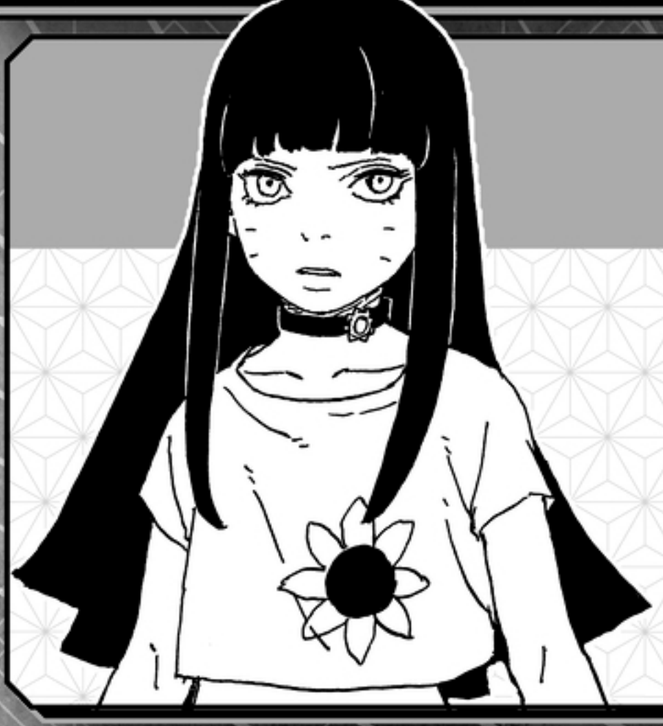


Q. Was Boruto seeing a glimpse of the future during that conversation with Amado, related to Kashin Koji's Prescience at all?

A. That is one of the abilities specific to Momoshiki, where "he can See a fragment of the future that is relevant to him." It shares some features with Prescience, but it is not an established shinjutsu and is considered inferior.

Q. What kind of intel is contained in Jura's book?

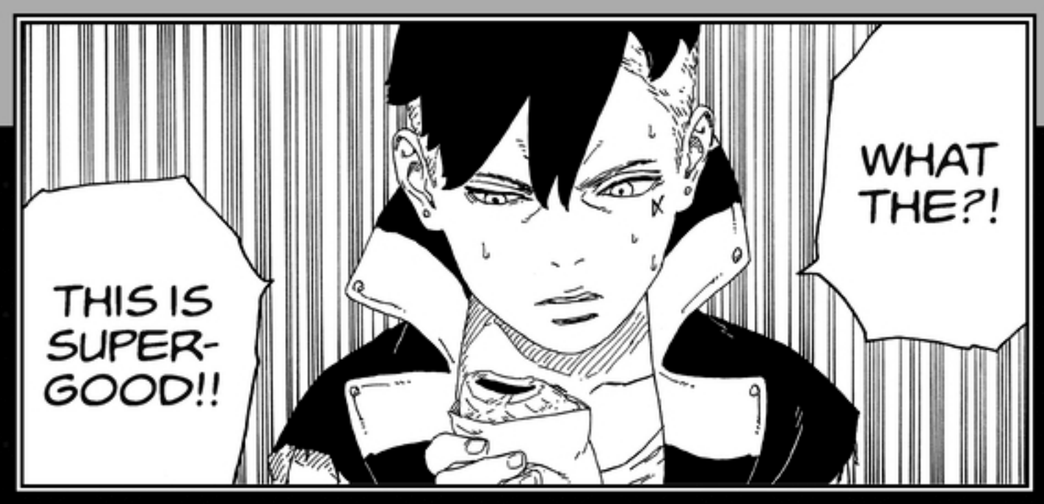
A. The book Jura took out that day is not a publication, but rather his personal notebook. He jots down various information, from daily discoveries to things on his mind, questions he has, and character relationship charts. To him, it is an important tool for keeping organized a vast amount of information that continues to grow each day.



Q. After the cataclysmic event, where and how has Himawari been living?

A. At her own request, Himawari has been living alone at the Uzumaki residence, taking care of all the household chores herself. Unable to shake the feeling that her parents will return someday, she is trying to protect their "belonging place."

Q. What flavor taiyaki filling is Kawaki's favorite?



A. Though it started out as chocolate, it didn't take that long for him to reach the conclusion that chunky red bean paste actually reigns supreme.

Q. How do you decide the Divine Trees' respective personalities or speech patterns? For example, Ryu is drastically different from Shinki, whom he originated from, but is there a reason for this?

A. Every individual has a "public self" that they present to others. This "sociability" is essential for living in society, but the Divine Trees, who have just awakened to their egos, do not yet possess this trait, and thus are primitive and stick to their instincts. So even if they seem to have a different personality than their template human, that may actually be that person's true nature.

◀ **Check out the NARUTO OFFICIAL SITE for more character and background explanations!**